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THE
ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BOMBAY
TOWN HALL, BOMBAY-1.

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London, 27th Augt. 1688.

OUR AGENTS & COUNCILL IN BENGALL.

We have with great impatience read your letter of the 26th of August '87 to our President and Councill of the Fort, & are grieved to see how you trifled away time upon frivolous pretences, lost the season of going to Chittegam, & engaged our Forces in unheathfull places to the loss of the lives of many of our worthy Countrymen, & to the irreparable dishonour of our Nation & the ruin of our trade in Bengall, if our worthy Generall on the other side of India had not steadily pursued our Orders, & thereby recovered the reputation to our King & Nation which you lost by disobeying or neglecting our orders,

It is a vanitie for you to fancy that your prudence or subtilty procured at last those goods terms you obtain'd of Abdull Sumud when you & our forces were, by your errors aforesaid, reduced to that low condition you were in upon the Island Higiley. It was not your wit or contrivance but God Almighty's good providence which hath alwaies graciously superintended the affaires of this Compa. particularly by the success he was pleased to give our Generall on Surrat side in takeing the effects of all the Moors, Mocha, Bussorah & Persian Fleets which were of a prodigious value and caused a deep stand of trade in all the Mogull's Dominions, for that neither Banians, Armenians, Egyptians, Turks, or Persians would give out any money to the numerous poor people of India to set them on work, nor indeed had they wherewith to do it, because all their effects were actually or in danger of being carried into Bombay. This fatall disappointment of the whole Trade of India caused insurrections & an universall lamentation & cry not only of the Natives but of the other Nations aforesaid, "Peace with the English or we must all starve," & this caused the Mogull himself out of his known humane benign disposition & love to mankind to send Cossids & Dak chowkie in haste to Bengall & all places to make up the Breach, & one of his greatest Princes to Surrat in such manner & with such express instructions that the English should remaine contended :,

From hence we do rationally conclude against the opinion of our Agent Mr. Charnock that if you had immediately according to the King our Sovereign's orders & our own proceeded directly for Chittegam while our Forces were strong & vigorous, the Mogull would have concented to our holding & keeping that place in amity with him notwithstanding we know it is very dear to him & would have granted you the fairer & the better terms. But since it hath pleased God that as his Providence overrules all things in the world as well small and great to determine this warfare otherwise then we designed, we are not now willing suddenly after the pacification to enter into any new warfare with the Mogull, but to hold all his Governours & people strictly to the terms he hath agreed with us, & never to suffer any fresh injuries from them, for which purpose we desire you to make us a speedy & full returns as possibly you can of our great stock in your hands & hasten in all our old debts, keeping in the Country as small a stock as is possible, for certainly it was our great estate lodged in their Country which gave them the Confidence to abuse at the rate they did formerly, together with an opinion infused into their minds by the wicked Interlopers & that Faction, that whatever Faction, that whatever injuries they did——were so fond of their Trade that we would never revenge it, or so poor and impotent that we would not do it:,

We have now wrote a respectfull Letter to the Mogull & intrusted our Generall with the management of it, of which letter you have a copy enclosed, whereby you will observe our endeavours to mend your faults & obtain that by fair means which you neglected when you had swords in your hands. It will be your part to advise our Generall what place may be best for our shipping, & may not reasonably be requested of the Mogull, who we doubt not but will allwaies keep his Peace with us while we maintain our trade at Bombay & keep that place in a such strong posture of Defence as we have resolved to do with God's assistance:, You must keep your Picars * & all that deal with you under the same subjection that the Dutch do, & not spare the Chawbuck † where there is cause for it, for it is a most egregious folly to think that people bred up in slavery can be managed without severity :,

Though our Agent be extreamly to blame in the matters before receited, & it may be for want of use, is not so fitly qualified for martiall affaires, yet we will believe he is an honest man & being so will doubte his care & diligence in makeing amends in the course of our trade for the errors he committed in Warfare, & therefore we will bear him out in his command, & in the place we have set him, & we require all persons of what degree so ever under him and all other English in Bengall to pay him that duty & respect which is due to the Chief of their Nation in that Country dureing the absence of our Generall, who may in due time visit those coasts, & we doubt not will find our Agent in all mercantile affaires deserveing that trust we have committed to his charge :,

We have writ our Generall President & Council of Fort S$^{t.}$ George to suply you with a competent number of Factors & Writers, & we intend to send you by the next ships ten Hospitall Boys for Writers, which we would have you keep strictly to their Duties as the Dutch do, & for willfull neglects or faults to punish them or any others under our Agent & Councill in the same manner, we haveing no less authority from our sovereign then the Dutch have from there sovereigns, to keep all that serve us in due obedience to such superior as we have set over them :,

Raw Silk of Bengall is much fallen in price & therefore you must get at least 20 p c^{t}: abated of the old rates or otherwise send us very little, & not any at all of any other sort, letter or numbar, than what is contained in our list of which take speciall notice :,

Your Taffaties are a noble commodity, of which you can never send us enough, being well made & well bought :,

Your clear Shellack of Cossimbuzar is likewise a sure commodity, be thoughtful & industrious to procure & send up all you can thereof, but send us no Turmerick on any terms whatever, for we have enough allready by us to serve Europe for four or five years :,

For other particulars of commodities we referr you to our list or memoriall for that purpose, which we have drawn with great circumspection, & would have you pursue it with more care & punctuality then your predecessors did :,

This ship the *Chandois* carry no stock expressly directed for your place, but considerable stock for the Fort, so much whereof as our Generall President &$^{a}_{c}$: may think you need we have ordered them to send down to you, & when we have full advices from you, we shall determine what more to send you directly, or by way of Fort S$^{t.}$ George :,

We would have you be restless in your requests to the Nabob for a mint at Hugly, but not to spend our money at that Durbar so profusely as formerly, But haveing wrote our Generall President &$^{a}_{c}$: at the Fort more fully concerning this matter, we hope our Generall may procure better terms & with less expence from the Mogull himself than you can from the Nabob :,

Your seizing and sending up Davis to the Fort was one of the wisest and best of your actions, & we commend you highly for it, tho' by a mistake in Judgement, our President &$^{a}_{c}$: blamed you for it, keep up our power & your own, & you preserve your honor & all things will go well, but where the reins of Government are slack nothing can prosper :,

Look in a most especiall manner to the sorting of our goods, that is the life of our Trade; in any failure of that kind we would have you never pardon the offender but turn him instantly out of our service of whatever quality of Degree he be, & trust not wholly to any others in that matter but see all you can & as often as you can possibly with our own eyes, & what you cannot see yourself by reason of other business, of distance, of place, examine afterwards yourself by opening some of the bales & inspecting the quality of the goods, & where you find persons just and faithfull as M^{r} Peachy was at Maulda

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* Picar, properly Paikar, H. A dealer, a shop-keeper, an intermediate dealer or agent, a broker; also one who goes about with goods for sale, a hawker, a pedlar.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

† Chawbuck, properly chabuk, corruptly chawbuk H. A whip.—*Ibid.*

Cherish & encourage them, & those you find have cheated or abused the Company as Pownsett & Harvy did at Decca, secure their estates to make the Company satisfaction in India, because if they escape home with their ill-gotten goods, little is to be recovered of them without tedious suits in Chancery which we have neither leisure nor a constitution fit to follow & solicite :,

Continue to press the Nabob to remedy our Factory at Maulda in as good condition as it was formerly, & to performe strictly all the other Articles of their agreement with you :,

Mr Frenchfield was comeing home before the late warr began & wee have heard holds no good correspondence with our Agent Mr Charnock, & wee have paid so dear for your Factions formerly, that although we have a respect for Mr Frenchfield we dare suffer no new factions to bud or sprout up against our Agent, whom since we dare trust in the head of our business in Bengall, we are resolved to trust him thoroughly haveing reaped excellent friut from that method in the great confidence we have reposed in our Generall Sr John Child, & therefore we do hereby discharge Mr Frenchfield from our service, at present giveing him leave to return for England or reside at Fort St. George in the quality of a free Merchant at his own discretion :,

And we have returned Mr Ley to be third of our Councill of the Bay & sorter of our goods at Hugly or at Cossimbuzar, at either place where our Agent may think he may do us the best service, he being a conscientious, faithfull man that may be trusted, we have likewise appointed him to be our Judge Advocate in Bengall, with two such assistants as our Agent shall appoint to join with him in the execution of that imployment, for which purpose we have given him a Commission which He will produce to you, & in case of his death which God forbid, We appoint such person provisionarily to succeed in that Office of Judge of our Admiralty Court as you our Agent & Councill shall direct, & we have further directed him to be our Register of Assurances according to the rules and limitation contain'd in a paper sent you apart with this packet, which you are exactly to confirm unto :,

You must likewise appoint some proper person to be our Attorney Generall, who is to exhibit complaints to our Courts of Admiralty against all offenders as he shall be directed by you after the manner used in Bombay, of which Mr. Ley hath seen something there, & will see more of the methods of our Said Court & officers belonging thereunto at Fort St. George as he returns to you by that place :,

We have directed him likewise to bring you from the Fort an abstract of all the receipts of our Revenue there, that you may collect the same there so far as reasonably you can in which our Agent will do us a singular Service, and if you can't reach up to the Pattern of the Fort in regard of the different circumstances of that place, you may however Raise what Revenues the Dutch do in Bengall after their methods, & more we will not desire of you :,

We hope you will so manage that place or Town of Ulaburreah which you have articled for that it may in time become a famous and well governed English colony, and render unto us & our Successors a considerable revenue which may go far towards defraying the charge of our Sloopes in the Ganges :,

The late despatches of our ships from the Bay in former times has been an unconceiveable dammage to us, we hope our Agent now he is delivered from these perplexities he was formerly engaged in, & from the controul of his secret & peevish enemies of his own Councill, & the underhand dark & malicious suggestions & designes of the Interlopers to obstruct the course of his & our honest Servants affairs, will be in condition to demonstrate that he is a man of business and dispatch in all Mercantile affaires as well as of Justice & fidelity to his Employers :,

Keep all our Servants in strict obedience to our Rules & to a sober vertuous & frugall conversation, & now you are at some ease, read over again many of our former Generall Letters in which probably you may find some usefull instructions of precepts which we may now forget to remind you of, and you might overlook in your late confusion :,

We are all ready overstockt with Petre, and may reasonable expect a deal more in a very short time & therefore it would be of considerable advantage to us, if you could find out any commodity weighty & of small price that would pay freight & serve to Kintlage our ships in lieu of Petre, for which purpose we have named clear, transparent Shellack to you, & in many of our former Letters we have mentioned Beeswax, we know it is not easy to procure a quantity there. cheap, but now you are at greater leisure we hope you will look further and contrive better for our interest than your Predecessors did, among other things of that kind M$^{r.}$ Beard began the manufacture of Hempen or Flaxen Canvas, which if our troubles & his own indisposition had not prevented might have grown in time to a considerable commodity, when your Weavers had learnt the art of making it not altogether so stiff & apt to fret w$^{ch.}$ they would soon have come to, & yet have made it full as strong like the best Hollands Duck of which the low sails of our ships are generally made, and in a little time your Weavers might have afforded that Commodity much cheaper then they did at first, for we have allwaies found any new commodity dearer by almost half at first then it is after your workmen are well practised in the making of it, as it happened formerly in your Taffaties of Cossm$^{e.}$:,

This we recommend again to your fresh endeavours :,

You must likewise remember allwais to provide in the best time and on the best terms two full ships Loading of Sugars for Persia, not so much for the bare profit we hope to obtain by that commodity but because it is necessary for us to create an Employment for our great Ships, the sight of which sailing in India tends much to the security & honour of our affairs, & discourage such as wish us not well from affronting or qurrelling with us :,

We have contracted with all Commanders & owners as you will see in the copies of their new Charter parties that all ships shall carry for us the same tonnage from Port to Port in India which they are obliged to bring home for Europe, & therefore you must not fail to send Rice and Provisions enough on board every ship of ours bound for Fort St. George or Bombay, untill the Commanders say, or give in writing under their hands that they can take in no more, to the intent that when they come to make up accompts with us here, & we find they fell short of carrying their full tonnage between Bengall & the Fort &^{c}: they may have no pretence for avoiding the making us an allowance for such defect by telling us they took in all the rice &$^{c}_{a}$ which you had or would send on board them :,

You have with this packet the copies of three contracts made with the Armenian merchants when we thought our Warr with the Mogull would have continued a great while longer than it did, and if we had thought otherwise, we should have made some variation in it, however, since it is done and many Nationall advantages accrue to this Kingdom thereby, especially to the English Navigation, we resolve for this year at least to keep our Bargain inviolably with them, and although we have a liberty by the contract hereafter to restrain Bay goods intirely to the Company, We will for this year make an alteration but require you to suffer them fully to enjoy all the priviledges granted to them by the Contracts aforesaid untill you receive our ord^{es} to the contrary :,

But least we should be overcrowned with Bay Goods belonging to private persons as we were formerly with Cuttanees,* we have by an order of Court inclosed withdrawn the indulgence granted to all English during the Warr for bringing home of Bay Goods upon any ships that shall depart Gravesend from after the first day of this instant August 1688:,

Your Cotton Yarn being of course sorts is very Bulkey and would be a brave commodity to fill up our great ships with dispatch, if we were not grossly cheated in the buying of it, But such hath been our misfortune in Bengall for some years past that we have been shamefully abused in prices of allmost every Commodity, which we hope our new Agent and Councill will take care to prevent, and provide for us and send the quantity of 100 tons of cotton yarn if it can be obtained for the sorts and winding formerly ordered at thirty ꝑ cent. cheaper than your last rates of that commodity, and if you can get it fourty ꝑ cent. cheaper send us two hundred tons thereof, by which, notwithstanding such abatement with you, we shall be very small gainers, our end in trading in your Bengall Cotton Yarn being principally to promote the English Navigation. By the last we had from you we lost ten ꝑ c^{t}: of our Principall :,

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* Cuttanees properly Katan-H. Linen cloth; also Linseed.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

By the Tincall you last sent us we lost 70 ꝑ c^{t}: and therefore we think it might be the return of some of our own Factors, alive or dead, from China or other parts Eastward, & invoiced so high for their private advantage. Enquire strictly into it and see to get us satisfaction from the estates of those that put that cheat upon us. We sold that we had 56^{r}-6^{e} ꝑ cent. which was above the midling price, and we now make known to you that you may the better know how to buy that Commodity hereafter to make us savers, which is as much as we hope for by a Kintlage Commodity :,

Our last Opium cost 98 Rupees ꝑ maund, sold here for 3^{r} : 09^{e} : by which (loss of weight considered) interest^{es}, custome, freight charges & all is lost, of which pray consider & see to buy that Commodity better hereafter & send us some of it, the best you can procure, because we would not loose any Commodity for one disappointment :,

Let it be your great care to send us the best of any Commodity, & then it will not fail to find a vent at one time or other, but your last shell-lack was stark, naught, as well as dear; if you could meet with a fine sort of it, such as comes from Pegu, & we have sometimes had from the Fort, it would turn to a very good acco^{t}: & you may send us fifty Tons thereof besides what we have writ for from other places :,

If we are not misinformed the Dutch make some Revenue of Chinsura w^{ch}: is their Ward or Precinct of Hugly as Purtobpore is ours, and we expect you should be hereafter as wise as they are in makeing y^{e}: same Revenues of our part or Precinct of Hugly as the Dutch doe of their's, and why should you not insist upon haveing y^{e}: farming of Ballasore as we had it formerly in y^{e}: time of M^{r}: Bakes' Chiefship, and as M^{r}: Bugden farmes it formerly on his own acco^{t}: Certainly you might contrive by the means of that Place to create some addic̃onall Revenue to y^{e}: Comp^{a}: if you employ honest, carefull men there :,

The clear Shellack desired you must pick up by degrees and in severall Places and be industrious and thoughtfull about y^{e}: procuring of it all y^{e}: year throughout, ffor we heare you cant buy a great Parcell and very good at once, but you will have Trash crowded upon you or mixe with y^{e}: good :,

Of y^{e}: best white Sugar Candy which is usually made at Tessinde ꝑfectly well dryed you may send us 20 or 30 Tons if you can buy it at 7 Rups. ꝑ maund little more or less, you must put it up in dry chests secured from y^{e}: sides Ends, Tops and bottoms of y^{e}: Chests with a little Cotton and a Course Wrapper as your fine goods are from Cossambuzar, but we would have our Agent himself not to trust wholly to samples, without seeing some of y^{e}: Parcells with his own eyes, and the whole by such as he can rely upon :,

The obtaining of this Commodity to be made good and send us safely as aforesaid, we know is a worke of Care & time and must be done by degrees which we recommend most particularly to our Agent because of y^{e}: great want we have of Kintlage goods in Bengall, while we are so very much over-stored with salt Petre of which we would bring no more for these 2 or 3 years if we could possibly contrive to make our ships sail-worthy wth: out it :,

When raw silk or any other Commodity is dear send us y^{e}: lesse of it, & the more of any Commodity writt for when it's cheap and very good :,

Give your money early out for Taffaties, you may procure y^{e}: great quantity of y^{m}:,

Settle Maulda ffactory again as soon as possible you can, it being certainly a very gainfull ffactory, if you have an honest Chief and second in it. We would trust none sooner than M^{r}: Peachy there, by y^{e}: goods we have had sent from him, tho^{t}: we know him not otherwise but we love to acknowledge the man's meritt. Let him buy such sorts of Raw silk at Maulda as are to be had there of y^{e}: numbers wrote for in our memoriall, We being well assured that place for what it afforde is cheaper by 20 ꝑ cent than Cossambazar :,

We are apt to think you might with a little paine & correspondency procure yearly Quantities of y^{e}: best sort of Shellack & Bees Wax, and it may be y^{e}: right sort of Shellack from Racoam, pray try your skill therein, and at every other place where those Commodities are like to be had, but this likewise must become by degrees and with industry. For you must never expect that any new thing will fall into your hands of itself or yt: you can easily meet wth: great parcell very good at once:,

Possibly some of ye: Armenian poor Merchts: which can travell further for 2 days than you can or will, with ye: charge of ten shillings, may be fittest to employ to provide those Commodities for you or for themselves, being encouraged by you to that effect, especially since by our Contract if they desire it they may bring those Commodities for Europe by our Shipping for their own accott: and the more they doe so bring especially of Kintlage goods, the better it is for the English Navigation and for the Company:,

Tho' we have wrote for a great quantity of Indico from Surratt of severall sorts yet considering your want of Kintlage goods and that Agra is within 3 days journey of Pattana, from whence you have all water carriage which is much cheaper than land carriage, We are apt to think if you were in ye: way of it you might buy Indico cheaper in ye: Bay than we can buy it in Surratt where the land carriage from Agra is so much further and dearer. We would therefore for an experiment desire you to buy carefully and send us fifty Tonns of Indico vizt: 20 Tonns of the best sort, ten tonns of the 2d: sort, ten tonns of the 3d: sort, and ten tonns of the 4th: or cheapest sort of all; but we shall like it altogether as well as better if you can perswade ye: thrifty experienced Armenians to break the Ice first in buying and bringing this Commodity by the way of Bengall on our Ships for Europe for their proper accot: and for the following reasons:,

1st Because if they so bring it it serve as well to Kintlage our ships as if we brought it ourselves:,

2d If you employ not our stock in Indico you may employ it in other Commodities that may turn to as good or a better accot:,

3d When the Armenian's Indico comes hither it is ours if we like it wthout being at any Disbursmt: or hazard of ye: Sea, paying ym: 30 ℘ ct: advance on ye: prime cost:,

4. If we take it not to ourselves on those terms we shall send it for them to Turkey, or farr enough out of ye: way for spoiling our own Marketts at home:,

5. Whether we take it to ourselves, or send it abroad, it must certainly pay ym: and us the custome and duties reserved by our Contract before we part with it, so that every way we have reason to Conclude this Armenian Contract will prove in the end of great advantage to ye: English Nation in generall as well as to the Compa: in particular, if you do your part in being kind and courteous to them:,

We had formerly from you a sort of strong cloth called Erundee cloth, which was bought very ill and dear, & that dear & ill buying of it together with our Buyers being unacquainted with the use of it caused us to forbear sending for any more of it, but now we have (as we conceive of Mr Charnock) a good man at the helm, we are willing to try it again being both to loose an usefull Commodity, especially so staple and strong a Commodity as that is, if Europe were well acquainted with ye: wearing of it, & therefore we disire you to send us ten Bales thereof to be made full yard wide & 30 covids long, thick and strong cloth, and four Bales of Erundee yarn not cross rules. Wee adventure again in hopes by degrees to bring it into use especially considering it is a cheap heavy commodity, and may stand us in great stead towds: lading our ships, if by your care we can buy it so cheap & well as not to loose by it:,

Your town of Ulaburrea we understand hath depth of water sufficient to make Docks and conveniences for the repairing any of our biggest ships, and is a healthfull place, and therefore we have added a paragraph in our Letter to our Generall, Since we subscribed our letter to ye: Mogull, that if he can obtain a Piermaund from ye: Mogull for our holding that place fortifyed, wth: the same imunities & priviledges we hold ffort St. George, we will be therewith content wth:out looking farther, or being at any new charge in contending for any other fortifyed settlement in Bengall:,

But then considering that you may be at a losse for good Pilots up ye: Ganges in case of the Death of George Heron and one or two more of the best of your Pilots, we find it necessary to give you leave at any time to make choise of any of the soberest of our young Master or Midshipmen that are willing to stay in the Country, to make Masters of our Sloopes and to bring up for Pilots in y^{e}: river Ganges, the rather because now we have such a place of our own as Ulaburrea, we could have none of our ships hereafter to ride in Ballasore road, spoiling their ground tackle, and wearying out their men rowing such long stretches :,

We would likewise have all our Ships hereafter homew^{d}: bound, (now you have y^{t}: conven^{t}: place, be made clean to y^{e}: Keel before they take in goods & to stiffon their sheathings wth: new nails w^{ch}: will tend very much to y^{e}: expedition of their passage as well as to y^{e}: security of ship's goods & men lives, so commending you and our affaires y^{e}: guidance and Protection of y^{e}: Almighty

We remain,

Your Loveing Friends,

BEN BATHURSH, *Gov^{r}:*,

JOS^{A}: CHILD, *Dep^{ty}:*,

CHANDOSE BARON OF,

J^{A}: EDWARD,

JOHN MOORE,

H. CH^{A}: SANTHE,

J. JOHNSON,

JHO: CHAMBER,

TH: RAWLINSON,

JOSEPH HORNETT,

TH: BOONE,

R^{O}: MARSHALL,

H. PASFRIGHT,

WILLIAM BOMSEINE,

B. HUTCHINSON.

Exd.—W. G. B.

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Public Despatch from England. General No. 10.

London, September 1689.

To—The GENERALL OF INDIA and
President and Council of Fort St. George.

* * * * * *

Ship *Bengall* to allow for not loading Rice.

Green cloth to be sent to Bombay, &^{ca}.

Wee shall deduct from y^{e} Commander of *Bengall* what we lost by his not taking in full loading of rice for the Company's account. If our Green cloath which you say is useless at the Fort be any part of it undisposed at our Generalls arrivall with you, we hope he hath sent it to Bombay or Persio, or otherwise disposed of it better or worse for to let it lye by to be eaten by your white ants, is dead losse.

B. Merchant releasement and contract approved of.

Callicoe much wanted.

Wee like well the releasement of your Company of black Merchants and the contract you have made with them, but we thought it would have been for at least double the quantity of those sorts of callicoes you mention, which are now much wanted here, and will continue a great commodity till our warehouses are well replenished again.

Want of silver coynes a damage to affairs att Sumatra, Company's orders to be punctually observed.

Your delay in coining silver coins for Sumatra &^{ca} are a disappointment, and losse to us, speedy execution of what you have our positive order for we always expect from you and pray let it be so for the future.

Presidents charity to Sailors commended and Comp^{as}. encouragement.

Our Presidents charitable bounty to seamen at Johanna we wish may find its desired effect as to their healths & if it prove so, it shall not want furtherance on the Companies charge.

Cloath &^{ca} sent, but not iot desired and why.

The cloath you desire as also some Vermilion and Quicksilver shall be sent by the first ship, but we dare not send to much, least your great trade from China where Vermilion and Quicksilver are usually to be had on cheaper terms than in Europe should spoil our markets at the Fort or yours both which we would avoid being as much for your good in your honest undertaking, as for our owne.

M^{r} Charnock not charged with misfortunes in Bengall.

Two Capitall Buyers in India not allowable and reason why M^{r} Charnock's method for procuring Articles of peace not approved of.

Settlement at Ballasore if feaseable.

Goods procurable for money much cheaper than advancing money to merchants before hand, it prevents several large expences.

Altho' we have hitherto been most unfortunate in Bengall we cannot charge M^{r} Charnock with any dishonesty, and are therefore very sorry you did not consign your permissive adventure to him in Chief joining others that you liked with him altho' we did not absolutely by our order of permission enjoyn you or others to it. It being as fatall in India to make two capitall English buyers as it would be here to make 2 English sellers of East India goods which is in effect two East India Company^{as}. M^{r} Charnock's great mistake and our loss for want of Bengall goods proceeds from an old notion not only of his but of other Englishmens that by forbearing trade in the Bay we shall compell the Natives to confirme the twelve Articles of peace agreed with him, and taking that notion for good he argues well & rightly, that permitting others to trade spoils that game of the Companys, but he does not at the same time consider what a mighty charge of demorage of ships and sloops loss of men and maintenance of Factories y^{e} Company is at waiting y^{e} moors leisure for confirmation of our Articles which we shall never bring them to by such chargable delays, but were better to bring away all our ships and put a finall end to all the companys charge in Bengall except the Banksall at Ballasore taken by Captain Heath, which wemay keep if we are able to defend it as we do Fort St. George and raise a revenue and a numerous Inhabitants there from whence there is no doubt, but most sorts of goods would be brought us from the upper parts of the Ganges for our money and if it be objected that the poverty of the people is such that they cannot provide goods except money be delivered out to them before hand, wee say 1st Wee know they are not all so poor but that many be bought ready made as we find by evident instances and discourse with Captain Boury and others considerably cheaper and better than ever we bought them when we gave out our money before hand and were at such excessive expenses in building and maintaining many large factories great and constant presents Sloops Pilots and a hundred other charges. 2d Wee say in a case of holding the Banksall at Ballasore by force and maintaining that place only in all Bengall our force riches and charge will be united and by the multiplying of people we may create a Revenue to support that charge, we shall not have so many cheats put upon us as are basely practised in most subordinate Factories, and until the course of trade be settled between the Uper Townes of the Ganges and Ballasore we shall be competently supplied with good from Benharris, Pattana, Dacca, Maulda, and Cassimbazar by the permissive trade allowed to Armenians, Portugueze, Banians, Jews, English, and it may be the Dutch and French, which will remain in Bengall and be glad of correspondence and other means of getting money by the English, of which there are some and among them Parsons Evans, and Mr Trenchfield and others which have all this time of trouble in the Bay maintained too fair a correspondence with the Natives in secret opposition to Mr Charnock's innocent and sincere designs and purposes for the public good out of which evil this good may emerge by accident not by their good purpose or foresight that while we stand at defiance with the moors in Bengall (as we are resolved to do until those Articles of peace made with us are confirmed by the Mogul's Phirmaund) such separate Englishmen as those we have before mentioned may remain and trade in the Country not as the Companys Servants nor at the Companys charge but as free men which may profit themselves and much further the permissive trade, we do allow to English and all Nations during the war by which upon all arrivall here wee gain as much as we will be contented with for the commodities of Bengall rather than sneak or bribe or submit to anything dishonorable to our Nation or the Company or anything less then is contained in those twelve Articles which were agreed and signed mutually by Agent Charnock and ye Nabob's Deputies upon ye close of chargable War which cost the Company viss and modis above five hundred thousand pounds besides the loss of a great many brave Englishmens lives, neither will we give any present to the new Nabob for obtaining any such Phirmaund, but stand upon it in point of right as due to us and to be delivered us without charge for to make any base submissions to them at this time and trust our money abroad again in their subjects hands would but encourage them to surprise us again and use us worse than ever they did before.

Parsons Evans &ca correspondence sensured.

Warr to continue till Articles agreed on confirmed by ye Mogul.

Private trades allowed, but not at ye Company's charge.

And if upon due consideration our General, yourselves and our Agent in Bengall should apprehend that we are unable by force to hold and fortify our Banksall, &ca, at Ballasore or that the trade we shall thereby have will not be worth so great a charge in such case you may quit that likewise and put a final end to all ye Companys charge in Bengall ordering all our people and effects to Fort St. George and Bombay and continue by stoops and otherwise to gall and affront the moors in Bengall on the shoar and at sea as you have opportunity with little charge by commissions to private ships and otherwise which we doubt not but will in a little time bring them to do right to us and themselves in the confirmation of the agreement made with them and in the mean time having peace with the moors on Surrat side we doubt not but to supply these marketts competenly with Bengall goods by the permissive trade we allow and some permissive ships we shall give leave to sail from hence directly from Bengall and home and to find our accounts in it as well as ever we did in times of peace in Vincents or any of his Predecessors time.

If Ballasore not to be kept, or ye trade not amounting ye charge to ye withdraw from thence.

To seize upon the moors by way of reprisall.

Permissive trade allowed.

Considering the vast charge we shall be eased of by this method which in ye most peaceable time did amount to ye nearest we can compute great part of the cost of our whole investments. Thus you have our opinion and resolution in this weighty concern wherein upon much consideration and conference with

Generals' power to act as he shall think proper.

the most experienced persons we think ourselves extreamly in y^{e} right yet if it please God to be so propitious to us that our worthy Generall be alive and with you or on that side of India when this letter arrives, Wee leave it to him being upon the place, to alter or take any other measures in this great affair that he shall judge more for our advantage.

Permisive trade very profitable.

Captain Bowry and others that have brought home Bengall goods upon our permission will we conclude again cent per cent by them over and above y^{e} allowance for our permission which causeth some to repent that slipt that opportunity of returning their effects for England.

* * * * * *

Fort att Ballasore taken by Captain Heath considered.

What benefitt.

Its Situation very inconvenient and why.

Companys inclination to settle at Chuttanuttee.

40,000 Rs. ordered to be given for a Phirmaund.
12 Articles insisted upon by ye Company.

Wee know not well what a kind of Fort that is at Ballasore taken by Captain Heath which the moors built upon or near the place where our Bankshall was formerly as we suppose and if you are in possession of it when this arrives you must consider of what use it may be to us and whether it be worth y^{e} charge of keeping or not we conceive it may command all ships and boats going into the River of Ballasore, but they are small and few. It cannot be any succour to our great ships rideing in Ballasore Road, the shoal water will hinder them from coming nearer that Fort than within five or six leagues and our ships in Ballasore Road do generally ride in a hard and dangerous Roadstead and many of our men come to sickness and death by their constant labour of rowing so far in such a rough sea which we would willingly prevent all that in us lyes and therefore if the Moors will allow us to fortifie ourselves at Chuttanuttee where our ships may go up and ride within y^{e} command of our guns it would be so much better for us. Though it should cost us a bribe of thirty or forty thousand rupees to the great men to be paid when we are possessed of the Moguls Phirmaund for that and for the confirmation of the twelve Articles made with M^{r} Charnock, but the confirmation of those Articles we insist upon in right and will not purchase them.

Dutch method to be observed upon a resettlement in Bengall.

In you settle in Bengal you must order our Pilots and govern yourselves in y^{e} settlement and collection of our Revenue after the same manner as y^{e} Dutch do in those Townes which they possess in that Countery, so commending you and our affairs to the guidance and protection of the Almighty.

We remain,

Your very loving friends,

BENJAMIN BATHURST, *Govr.*
JOSIA. CHILD, *Deputy.*
JOSIA. CHILD, *Junior.*
THOMAS COOKE.
JOHN COOKE, *of Austin Friers.*
JAMES EDWARDS.
BERKELEY.
THOMAS FREDERICK.
JOHN GOODERE.
JOSEPH HERNE.
WILLIAM LANGHORN.
NATH. MOUNTENEY.
RICHARD. HERNE.
WILLIAM SEDGWICK.

Mr. George Cook
to be 4th of Council and
M$^{r.}$ Pilkington last.

† We have been so exceedingly obliged to relacons of Mr. George Cooke formerly at Persia, y^t notwithstanding his former too intimate correspondence with Falcons creature of Syam, we would have you now make him 4th of our Council at Fort St. George, except our General have before this comes to your hands placed him in some other Stacôn which he likes better. Wee would have you likewise make M^r. Richard Pilkington who formerly was at Syam, youngest of our Council at y^e Fort as soon as he shall come thither to which place his father our present —Tho Pilkington hath ordered him to repair as soon as he can.

London, 30th May 1690.

Our President at Fort St. George, Elihu Yale, Esq.

Mr. Yale proceedings applauded.

Method for procuring peace with Moores blamed.

Reasons why.

Bengall goods very deare.

Methed for procuring y^m directed.

Sum not to exceed 25,000lbs.

How to be sent and why.

What coynes.

Nabob's favor to bee preserved.

Cessation of Armes offered upon the Coast and Bay.

Wee have in our general letter by this ship given you our thanks for your prudent management of our concerns and intend in our next to give you a further testimony of our gratitude and although we think it is improper as well as beneath the honor of the Company to send creeping to Bengall to make a separate peace with the new Nabob Dacca upon his Perwanna or letter of invitation, since the war is now a generall or nationall war between the English and Moores until an universall Peace be made by the Representatives of our Nation our Generall and Councill of India residing at the Bay as you will observe by general letter accompanying this. Yet in regard all sorts of Bengall goods are now exorbitantly dear in Europe and that wee would not willingly hold a candle, wee may say a torch to the Dutch to make a harvest in Trade of our totall neglect of those Bengall commodities. We have therefore thought fit to impower singly and with secrecy to employ such persons, as you shall think most faithfull and able in your own name or otherwise to invest the value of twenty or five and twenty thousand pounds sterling in Bengall goods which you may send down at once or at twice rather (for we would not venture too much of our stock at one time on a hazardous enterprise and it is our desire, that the stock you send down for the Companys accomp^t should be one half in rupees coined at the Fort and the other in Dollars to be sold, but not to stay the coining of them in the Bay and in the meantime wee think you may do well to hold a respectfull correspondence with the new Nabob at Dacca, who hath begun it first with you, in which you may assure him that tho you cannot make a finall Peace of all differences, because that must be done by the Generall and Councill aforesaid, you will notwithstanding presume and take upon you to enjoyn on that Coast a cessation of all hostility while your small trade in the Bay continues, and untill a perfect Peace be made by our Generall and Councill aforesaid, for and on behalf of the whole English Nation.

Persons to be intrusted, to make y^e investment att M^r Yales election.

Affairs to be transacted in private names and why.

Persons sent to return with the same ship.

Whom you should intrust in this affair of our Bengall Servants that yon have with you we will not determine, but leave to your choice to imploy such only as you have alwaies found faithfull, and not to let the persons themselves know that they are employed for the Company's account but to carry the matter so secret at least for a time as if they were employed only for the account of yourself and friends and so let them go as private Merchants without the Pomp, state and charge that would be requisite if they were known to be employed for the Company. Let those that go on errand be bound to return to you by the same ship or sloop that carries them there and when you have nor until you have the

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† This should come as the concluding portion of the last letter.

2^{d} Sum not to be sent before receipt of y^{e} 1st.

3 or 4 consignments directed if to purpose.

W^{t} sort of goods in request.

W^{t} goods out of request and why.

returnes of the first sum you send thither, send not a second and when you have the returnes of the first and second, which we presume may amount to the value of 25,000℔ aforesaid, you may in like manner venture upon a third and fourth Investment of the like 25,000℔. But observe that the goods most in request are the finest muslins and callicoes of all sorts, *viz.*, Doreas, Humhums, Mullmulls, Tanjeebs, fine Cossaes, Ginghams, white and colored, and Nillaes and Taffaties. But Raw Silk of Bengall is pulled down in price extremely by the great quantities of China Silk, but that will however turn to a tollerable account, for what you cannot invest in the other goods aforesaid, and so will the clear Shellack of Cassimbuzar.

No Europe goods to be sent until desired. Coast goods in request (except Betellees).

Now is your time to dispose of all our Europe remains for we will send you no more until you write for them, and now is your time to send us all the Coast Callicoes you can (except Bettellees) which will come to an extraordinary market.

Fort Rupee to be sent to Bengall and why.

Moors not to be trusted.

Wee advise the sending of rupees, especially coined at the Fort at this time, because now the people are hungry for Trade and commenced a new friendship with us. It is fit wee should begin upon terms, that may be of much future advantage to the Company and we have no reason to doubt, but if they will allow you trade, they will admit of any easie condition coming with it, they having pincht so long for want of our trade more to the damage of their Merchants in one respect than of us, because during the abatement of Trade, the price of our goods here hath advanced, as theirs hath in India of which we doubt not thro' your fidelity and of those you will choose to employ in this matter, wee shall find the good effects. Wee have found the Moors Governours so perfidious in all their treaties hitherto that you must be very cautious how you trust them upon any Oaths or promises, notwithstanding any plausible character they pass under.

Europe goods to be sent to Bengall from y^{e} Fort.

Some few of our Europe goods likewise (such as you know will sell well), you may if you think fit, send to Bengall on this occasion. So we commend you to God and rest.

Your very loving friends,

Letter from the Company, to the President and Councill, Fort St. George, London, the 22nd January 1691-92.

* * * * * * *

Bengall subordinate to the fort.

During M^{r}. Charnock's—independent.

You will observe by our commission now sent our President and Councill that by the said commission wee make Bengall subordinate to the fort and by our letters wee make M^{r} Charnock absolute Governor of our affairs in Bengall without appeal to y^{e} fort which at first view seems to be a contradiction of our commission, but you will find it is not so upon our explanation, which is this, during M^{r} Charnock's life wee intend to trust him with such uncontrolable power but in case of his death, wee intend Bengall shall returne to its quandam subordination to the fort.

There is another thing in our commission that wants our explanation that is by our commission wee have made our Judge Advocate fourth of our Councill whereas Sir John Bigs was third of our Councill which wee do not do as having a lesse esteem of M^{r} Dolbin then wee had of Sir John Bigs, but for this reason only that M^{r} Navill having been second and alwayes true to our interest, we do not think fit to encourage him by lessening him from being second of our Councill to fall to fourth of our Councill, but rather if Mr Browne prove faithfull to dispose of him to succeed Mr Charnock as Chief of Bengall or otherwise as wee shall see cause, and then Mr Navill to return to his place of second of our Councill and our Chief Judge to his proper place of third of our Councill and in the meantime wee would have Mr Dolbin have the same allowance of Poona as if he were third of our Councill, during this interim that you have in effect two seconds so tender you see wee are of discouraging any man that hath been cordial to our interest.

Sir William Langhorne hath a kind man with you or in Bengall one Mr Trevor Games, wee hope he is honest and carefull if he proves . . . your countenance and preferment as soon as he can merit it by his diligence and good behavior without which he will have no favor from Sir William.

Ships late to be returned to Bengall.

Wee are like to fall late in the year with these ships and therefore you must hasten them down to Bengall with all immaginable expedition, wee would not have them stay above two days in Madras road.

Steeple to be built to your church.

Wee have desired Captain Gouldsbrough to go in hand immediately with the building of a steeple to your church with the money collected for that purpose according to dimentions given him, and by our next ship wee intend to send you a ring of six tuneable Bells to fix in our steeple which the founder told us cannot be cast sound at this season of the year.

Mr Saugere recommended.

In the year 1687 wee sent out one Amalry Saugere to serve us as a writer in your factory of whom wee have received a good character and being given to understand that by the permission of our President and Councill he sailing into the Bay with Mr Chardin at his return from thence was disappointed of his former station and others preferred before him. His relations have earnestly importuned us on his behalf that he may be restored to the place he had before his going into the Bay and receive encouragements in our Service as he shall be found to deserve which wee recommend unto you to see done accordingly, if the climate do not agree with his constitution he may be permitted to return for England, if he desire it, he paying the charge of his transportation back.

So commending you and our affairs to the guidance and protection of the Almighty.

Wee remain,

Your very loving friends,

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 926 F. D.—8-6-93.—500. [W. G. B.]

To the Hon^{ble} the Governour and Committees
For affairs of the R^{t} Hon^{ble} Comp^{as} of March^{ts} of London
Trading to y^{e} East Indies.

* * * * * * *

Wee hope wee shall never give your Hon^{rs} occasion to censure us for want of sending home our Books of Accompts yearly so long as wee have so delligent an Accomptant. Your hon^{rs} will perceive by those Letters and Dayarys by the *Charles* and *Sampson* how farr the late Commissary General, Agent and Councill, had proceeded in the business of M^{r} Peactise in recovering satisfaction for Injuries your Hon^{rs} have sustained through his extravagences, &c., and lately peruseing the Gene^{l} charges of Maulda, doo find that he hath exceeded the limitation ordered by the Agent and Councill formerly, Rup^{s} 1,095-10½ w^{ch} wee have charged him with, and are now sending his accusation with his person to Ffort S^{t} George that Justice may be done your Hon^{rs} in the Court of Judicature there. He is indebted to yo^{r} hon^{rs} by the Maulda accounts about Rup^{s} 6,000 being for the severall in his time, wee have lately demanded of him, whose reply was that he had noe money at present by him, but that he would satisfie that debt as soon as possible. Wee have referr'd all to ffort S^{t} George whither he is now going to adjust all acco^{ts} and to answer to all miscarriages and demands that may be made on him.

Touching Maulda and Dhacca ffactorys wee presume Agent Charnock gave it as his opinion the withdrawing of them not only because the goods us'd to come out deare at Maulda and the expences were large at both places, but because he thought whilst your Hon^{rs} continued to send out a small Stock he might make yo^{r} Hon^{rs} Investment wholy in Chuttanutte, but finding dayly many inconveniences attending him in buying goods alltogether here, the Merch^{ts} imposing on his necessitie and likewise the scarcity of Goods to lode your Hon^{rs} shipps timely home, made him notwithstanding his discourse of withdrawing the Factorys continued them to his very Death, and in all probabillity had he lived, would never have withdrawne them (since he had ordered their Expenses) unless your Hon^{rs} possitive orders had obliged him, tho' 'tis not to be questioned but his opinion to yo^{r} Hon^{rs} herein was out of a pure and sincere respect he had for your Hon^{rs} Affairs, but notwithstanding what may agreed to the continuing or reducing those ffactorys wee have in obedience to the Commissary Gene^{ls} Orders before his death called away your Hon^{rs} Serv^{ts}. M^{r} Braddyll arriving with us from Maulda and M^{r} Churlton was left by the Agent to bale up goods from Dhacca, soe that your Hon^{rs} have only 2 ꝑsons at Ballasore and 2 at the Mint to looke after the Coynage of yo^{e} silver, but if a large stocke arrives next year wee cannot but submissively offer to your Hon^{rs} consideration the great necessity wee shall be put to in the providing of fine goods and makeing up whole Investm^{t} in this place; for the Merch^{ts} knowing that wee are Constraind for to buy all goods here in Calcutta (our upper ffactory's being withdrawne) will impose on us at any rate, whereas on the Contrary when goods were provided by your Hon^{rs} Serv^{ts} in Cassimbazar, Maulda, and Dhacca, Merch^{ts} were more strictly kept to their Contracts forward in bringing in their goods and finishing their Acco^{ts}; the continuance of those factorys being a bridle to their covetious and currupt humours, besides the Goods brought there will come 15 or 20 per cent. cheaper then wee can buy here of the Merch^{ts}, if your Hon^{rs} Servants have but experience and be but faithfull; but as to a more ꝑticular Acco^{ts} of the Settling of those Factorys wee submissevely referr your Hon^{rs} to the enclosed Paragraph of our Letter of the 13th July to the Hon^{ble} Presd^{t} and Councill of Ffort S^{t} George, w^{h} are our opinions in answer to what they required of us.

Wee observe your Hon^{rs} directions and shall put your Hon^{es} to noe charge in buying and maintaining Shipps upon noe acco^{t} whatsoever.

Wee observe the Caution your Hon^{rs} are pleased to give us as to the recovering your Debts in Cassimbazar, in w^{ch} wee have still hopes, a considerable sume may be recovered wth little or noe charge, but our endeavours will manifest y^{e} event hereafter.

returns your Hon^{rs} his most humble thanks for your favourable determination concerning him.

Wee presume in the future there will noe prejudice arrise to your Hon^{rs} affairs by the freedome given to privates traders, since the late regulations appointed by your Hon^{rs} to prevent it.

Wee have made your Hon^{es} Serv^{ts} acquainted wth your resolution in case any of them refuse or neglect to doe what writing worke or otherwise that shall be put to them by their superiours, and doe not question but they will give due observance accordingly.

* * * * * * *

In obedience to your Hon^{es} orders of the arrivalls of the *Princess*, we sent for Muttrady from Hughly, and made him many fair promises by way of encouragem^{t}, in order to the withdrawing him from the Interlopers, telling him how that he had noe occation to creepe to such a sort of People whose residence and trade was but for a yeare, that our houses was the most safe and securest hold, and more for his reputation and creditt to be concerned with soe antient a People as the R^{t} Hon^{ble} Company who were able to protect him from any afront or Injury he might one time or otherwise receive from the Government, that wee would always keep his hands Employed and be concerned with him soe farr as he could be able to manage, and that wee would write home to your Hon^{es} in his behalfe who had given orders for his readmittance into favour, Provided he would not deale with the Interlop^{rs} your Hon^{rs} Enemies, and many more expressions to this effect, upon which he made many solemn deprecations, that he knew noe other house then ours and that his first rise was from us whome he would serve to the utmost of his power, that he had noe occation to serve a new people's Interest where the old was soe potent and fresh in his memory, that would endeavour to disengage himselfe from the Interlopers as soon as possible and much more to this effect was his discourse, but notwithstanding all his fair promises wee cannot but acquaint your Hon^{rs} he hath proved false to your interest by continually corresponding with and assisting the Interlopers in all their designs insoemuch that we can very seldom gett him near us, except just on the dispatch of this Shipp. He is a person whose Covetiouness blinds all other considerations whatever w^{ch} makes him reach at all, but wee doe not finde he will gaine so much by the Interlopers this year as will be equivalent to your Hon^{rs} gratuity of 30,000 Rs. w^{ch} wee have promissed him and gave him assurance of according to your Hon^{es} orders tho' to noe effect, wee are of opinion if an offer of soe much money had been made him on y^{r} Interlop^{rs} first arrivall, he might have been prevented from taking any money or being concerned wth them, but the Gov^{r} of Hugly especially would have lay'd hold of the opportunity of fraustrating their designs by his letter to the Nabob and Duan, contrary whereof he wrote in their endeavour for so large a sume of money wee have lately promissed him of 20,000 Rup^{s}.,
unsuccessfull in all our attempts, both at Dhacca and Hughly, the King's Duan proving their friends against all arguments wee could alledge to y^{e} contrary, and hath given them a perwannee for the trade of their Shipp and Voyages on paying a pescash of Rup^{s} 3,000; they had much advantage of us in one respect by reason of the Dhacca factory was wth drawn before Catchpole arrived whose main argum^{t} with the Duan was that the Rt. Hon^{ble} Company had 40 Shipps yearly came into this King's dominions and paid but Rup^{s}· 3,000 yearly piscash, and they were willing to give so much for one shipp. Our Vacqueel presented them in the Nabob's Durbar, in so much that the Nabob would give one Perwanna and the Nabob been a man of spiritt he would have put an end to that Dispute, for it is not customary for Duans to give their Perwannas in such publick affair without first getting the consent of the Nabob, and his Perwanna hath first the Chaup, neither the Duan's perwanna of any value or use, if each of them bee displeased and if any more Interlopers arrive, or these hereafter, they will be as forrtunate as they were at first.

The 15th August wee thought it very opportunely to put in Execution a warrant wee had rece^{d}· from Ffort S^{t}· George concerning a messenger who had unlawfully taken possession of a house next ajoining to the Interlopers, and in order thereunto wee sent our Serjant with 20 Soldiers and

Seamen to Hugly to seize his persons and take charge of the house, for wee heard he had taken the Interlopers protection, and our maine designe in sending soe many Soldiers was to interupt their business and trade, by the Governm$^{t.}$ and make them believe there are something intended against Pitt's person, that thereby it might have been entred in y^{e} *Waacha to y^{e} Nabob and Duan to oppose Pitt by force which in all probillity would have put a stop to their proceedings, for neither the Nabob nor Duan would have given them any countenance or permitted them to trade had such a story been entered in the Waacha. That wee design to quarrel for this the Duan was all along afraid of, and prevented him from giving them a perwanna sooner, but the onely man wee have reason to suspect that prevented this fair and good designe was Muttradoss, who told the Gov$^{e.}$ by our sending soe many men in arms up was chiefly to ffrighten them, and that he had such an interest wth us here would soone gett them recalled and sent away. On the Serjant's first arrivall with soe many men it put the whole citty into a consternation and messenger was seized and the house taken possession of wth out the least oposition, but as hee was coming to us with a guard, in their way as they passed by the Interloping Shipp severall Muskett Balls were fired at them from said shipp, and the boate hailed on Board and followed with their Ship's *Pinnace* with men in arms (as your Hon^{es} will Pceve more at large by the guard's deposition in our Dyary of the month of August), on advice whereof wee delivered them a protest by two of your Hon^{es} Serv^{ts} and sent M$^{r.}$ Cormell up with 32 Seamen more to joyne with their Sergant and men allready at Hughly in case of any violence that might be offered by them in retaking the house, for they had thretened to oppose us by force, and had about 40 men in armes in their house to command occation, and in a small time wee received their answer, a refusal both w^{ch} are entered in our Dyary's in August with severall other things relating to the affair for yo^{r} Hon^{es} perusall, their business goe on but slowly and belives it may be the latter end of Inter^{es} before thay can dispatch their business to leave Bengall.

* * * * * *

By the death of Agent Charnocke your Hon^{es} are disappoint^{ed} in your entenions and expectaions of having a Court of Judicature erected in Bengal, and for that reason we presume the Hon'^{ble} Presi^{dt} and Councill of ffort S$^{t.}$ George tooke the Commission out of our Hon^{es} Pacquet before it came to us.

Our endeavours have beene fruiteless hithertoo in procuring the Nabob's and Duan's consents for a firme settle$^{nt.}$ in this place, and wee have noe hopes of a grant for it soe long as this Duan continues, wee have endeavoured to farme two or three Towns adjacent to us (Chuttanuttee included) the rent whereof will amount to about 2,000 (or) 2,500 Rup$^{s.}$ yearly, w^{ch} is a means to increase your Hon^{es} revenus in your towne of Chuttanuttee, for allthough wee doe make sume small matter out of our Buzar by Graine fines &$^{a}_{o}$ yett wee cannot lay any impositions on the peoples, the never so reasonable till such time as wee can pretend a right to the place, w^{ch} the farmeing the Towns adjacant will soone cause and procure us the liberty of collecting such duties of the Inhabitants as is consistant with our own methods and rules of Governm^{t}, and this is the onely means wee can think off till wee can procure a grant for our firme settlement. The duties Collected out of the Towne last month and fines paid amount to about Rup^{s} 160—whereas formerly it was so small that it did not amount to 30 Rup^{s} one month wth another.

The Nabob of Pattanaa, Buzzurgh Omeed Cawne dyed lately a bitter enemy to yo^{r} Hon^{es} affaires ever since the warr, the Injury he sustained by the Loss of a shipp and some goods in those troubles made him irreconcilable to his death.

There is hopes of Mr. King's enlargement and of liberty to trade their, soe that if occasion arise wee may send up an Englishman to buy salt Petre for your Hon^{es} shipping, the quantities your Hon^{es} require from us being not procurable in Hugly.

* Waacha, properly Wakia. H. Events, occurrences; news, intelligence.—Wilson's *Glossary of Indian Terms.*

Notwithstanding Muttradass hath made soe ill use of your Hones favour and has beene false to us in the business of the Interlopes, wee have arranged as faire a correspondence wth him as possible, and gave him in the begining of the yeare an Impress for goods neare Rups. 1,70,000, part of wch is come in and goes by this Shipp, ye remainder comes in by small parcells wch were are prizing to send by the *Hawk.*

We have begun noe brick building in this place except a Godowne Warehouse wch was of necessity to be built for prizing and sorting your Honrs Goods this year, and shall build noe more then just what's of necessity for your Honrs business untill wee have the Nabob's and Duan's Perwannas for a firme settlement here.

* * * * * * *

Rt Honbl
Your Hones Most humble and
Obt. Servts.
CHARLES EYRE.
JOHN BEARD.
ROGER BRADDYLL.
EDWARD CORMELL.

Chuttanumtte,
14th Decr, 1694.

To the Honble the Governr Deputy and Committies of the Rt Honbl English East India Company in London.

* * * * * * *

27. Paragraph 21-42. On the 22nd Instant we had the opportunity of sending by a Country ship to Bengall your Honrs Letter to them received by the *Russell* frigat wh List of Goods to be provided, and also gave them the advice of the ffleet frigat's arrivall and Cargo and the Armenians Contract. Wee observe your Honrs have been pleased to reduce Bengall to their former dependance on ffort St. George. The former Letters by the *London* frigat giving us leave to interpose our Authority when occasion required, we did upon the Complaint of the Agent and Councill against Mr. Braddyll for Coining the natives Silver in yr Mint under your Honrs Priviledge and for disrespectfull carriage to the Agent, &c., give them some direction as your Honrs will find at large in ye Consultation of the 23rd Septembr whereunto we humbly refer, we have since received Letters from the Agents, &c., but give no answer of the result, and untill we understand that, and whether Mr Ellis and Mr Braddyll will come to ffort St. George, there will be no determination concerning the President's proceeding to Bengall.

* * * * * * *

50. On the 30th Instant Ship *Sarah* Mr. Gough Supr arrived here from Bengall and brought us a Genll Letter acquainting us what they had delivered Mr. Gough, but they have given your Honrs an accot as well by that Pacquet as by the *Martha* of all affairs in Bengall, and particularly the difference which have happened between the Agent, &c., and Mr. Roger Braddyll. By this Ship we understand the probability of our Letters reaching Bengall before the *Martha's* Departure wch orders her to touch here for Sailing orders, and both we and the Commander of ye *Mary* are willing that the *Martha, Mary* and *Sarah* should goe together if possible, and is the reasons of our permitting the *Mary* to tarry so long as not to loose her passage about the Cape.

* * * * *

Your Hons most obedient
& humble Servants,
NATHANIEL HIGGINSON.
JOHN STYLEMAN.
WILLIAM FRASER.
THOMAS WRIGHT.
Chuttonuttee, 14th December 1694.

Copy of a letter from the Governor and Council of Fort St. George.
To the Hon^{ble} Gov^{e} Deputy Committees of the Rt Hon^{ble} English East India Company.
Dated 30th September 1696.

* * * * * *

34. In Bengall your Hon^{rs} affairs went on (notwithstanding the troubles at Surat) without any impediment from the Government. The Nabob and Duan of Decca agreeing in favouring and encouraging Trade, tho' they quarrell about y^{e} Government. But their last Letter Complains of the disturbance occasioned by the Rebellion of a Rasa, and expected from the arrivall of the Interloper the *Antilope*, Edw^{d} Clyoes Supra Cargo, in the middle of August, concerning both, w^{ch} wee doubt not, but your Hon^{rs} will receive from Bengall a particular acco^{t} by the *Russell* Frigot. The advice wee have received is in the Letters from Bengall, Nos. 184, & 218, 222, by w^{ch} it appears that the Rasas forces have taken possession of Hughly fort and the Chaukeys upon the River to Muxadabad so that no goods could passe by their leave, the Dutch assisted the Moors and regained Hughly ffort, but the mast^{er} of the Vessell that came last from Bengall sais that the Rasas men hath retaken it and there doth not yet appear an armey of the king's to subdue them, so that how farr they will proceed or how long continue mast^{r} of what they have is uncertain; that wth respects your Hon^{es} affair's is the present security of the ffactory, the Carrying on the Investment and y^{e} fortifying of the ffactory, the Agent and Councill seem to have taken the most prudent method for those purposes in Maintaining a friendship with both partys in such a manner as that the Rasa doth not suspect them and yet the Nabob sends them thanks for their Assistance against the Rasa. It will be difficult for them to carry on such a Pollicy long without being necessitated by one accident or other to declare for one party, in w^{ch} case wee have advised them in our Letter of the 2nd Oct^{br} (copy whereof comes herewith) to take the part of the Moor's Government, so far as will consist with their present safety, Because it is more probable y^{t} they will at last subdue the Rebell. Then those who have assisted him must fall under the Eye of the Government and if they have built any thing like a fortification, it will be observed and probably will either be demolished or must bee maintained by force, whereas y^{s} buildings of those who have assisted the Government may probably be as, if not to great and to much like a fort.

35. Upon such considerations probably the Dutch and French have chosen and agreed to declare publickly against the Reball Rasa, and they can better doo it having sufficient number of European Soldiers to defend themselves, especially the Dutch who have now shipps of Warr in the River w^{ch} besides European Soldiers and Mariners have brought considerable number of Buggesses &$^{c.}$

36. The agent, &$^{c.}$, from Bengall wrote in their last Letter "those words "[Wee are forced to acquaint you that it will be impossible for our marketts "to take of the quantitys our R^{t} Hon^{ble} Masters yearly designe hither tho' wee "should sell for halfe y^{e} cost in England], wee have by answer ordered them to send us up hither what they cannot sell in a yeare or two's time, because the Cloth is more subject to damage and hazard in their Godowne then ours.

* * * * * *

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 929 F. D.—8-8-92.—500.—A. E. deS.

Public Despatch from England Vol. 11 for 1678.

Extract from the Honourable Company's letter to the President and Council, dated London, the 20th of January 169⅞.

We have various reports touching the Rebellion of the Rajah in , Our Agent and Councill write us, as you also doe we suppose from their information, that they keep in with both parties and appear enemy to neither, but that in truth they incline most for the Mogul and Nabob by the luckey accident of his people routing some of the Rebels by our factory, and believes our Agent and Servants to be entirely to in his interest, that the Dutch and French have openly opposed the Rebell who threatens to be revenged on them, but by some of the people arrived on the *Antelope* just come into that river We hear that the Dutch have acted more like Politicians preserving a better interest with the Rajah or Jemindar perswading him that what they have done was only in their own defence and in the meantime have strongly fortified themselves as to defy the attempts of either side, and have set up and declared for themselves, while the English have but very sligktly secured their factory, and by too soon declaring for the Mogul have incensed the Rebel against them past all reconcilication, we know not what credit to give to their report, nor consequently what to advise you thereupon, only this, write to them to secure themselves, to get their fortifications well strengthened and regularly made having so good an opportunity, and if possible to offend neither party, nor side with either, but carry it ly towards both, and if necessitated to declare themselves to do it in such a manner as will admit of a fair excuse to the other Party.

* * * * * * *

Our Agent and Councill in Bengall. (date destroyed.)

1. Our last to you was by y^{e} *Tavistoe* the 16th April 1697, in answer to y^{e} letters received by the *Sarah* and *Martha*, since which we have and are now to answer your severall letters of August, 19th October and 30th January 1696 by the Russell Fleet freights. which ships together with y^{e} *Mary* from Fort and *America* from Bombay thro Gods blessing are lately arrived in Safety.

2. We have now ready to go into the Downes the *Martha* 625 tons, Captain Raynes Commander, and the 350 tons Captain Bridges, both bound for your place with 110 chests of silver besides goods as you will see by their Invoices, and with them the *Thorndon* a ship of 500 tons, Captain Petre Commander and the Fam Captain Betton Commanding, both bound for the Coast with sufficient cargoes to give them a quick dispatch.

3. On the *Martha* we have sent out Thompson Esq^{re} to be our President at Fort S^{t} George at which place she will first touch, to unlade the treasure goods on board her consigned thither, M^{r} Higgins having by the Russell Fright desired a dismissal his present station by reason of the opposition he withall from some Council and the of those important upon him were too heavy for him us to send from hence, in his and so put him in a lower station in our Councill there wherein we have him, and put him of our Councill and said President who we are well assured will soon employ the utmost of his endeavours and under the affairs of India or our Service, who know must needs to the Fort. We resolving at present that you shall be dependent only on ourselves as to your accompts and all other principal matters relating to the trade of the Place, which we will never alter unless your remiss or unfaithful management change our minds, however we would have you correspond with the Fort on all occasions, communicating to them all needful advices, and take their directions in all matters relating to our interest, there being always safety in the multitude of good Councillors, and especially in what may relate to the defeating of Interlopers, wherein we think our Presidents advice may be helpful to you, he having engaged to us to signalize himself therein.

4. You did well in sending Mr Peachie to the Fort in order to the settling his accounts, which method we would have you always persue, where you cannot otherwise make any your Subordinates to be honest to us. We have now wrote to the Fort to put an end to ye Matters in difference which they write us they cannot fully do till the return of your answer to what they have lately written concerning the said Mr Peachie, upon which occasion, we advised them as we now do you. That it be hereafter a standing order in all places under your Agency When any person is out of our service either by death or dismission proceed to the stating and adjusting such persons accounts receiving wt due from him if possible out of his effects upon the place never putting us upon sueing the security here, if any way recoverable their be dead, and we are indebted to him to settle his accounts and advice of the balance by their next letters that we may pay it to his relations here, it being as same for us to answer the Executors that we have no books from.

5. Your resolution to keep a steady Government in you and not suffer and connive at any of our servants refactories, infidelity, we approve and shall commend it as we do to put the same in impartial execution. We are well pleased to read that sobriety is so much countenanced and practised and hope you will give the like effect and encouragement to all other virtues, that the Christian name be not evil spoken off, but its precepts admired by the heathen among whom you dwell.

6. We approve of your sending us so much of late years, and must do you right in telling you, the goods received by the *Russell* and fleet are generally and goods of their kinds, and is one great reason of purpose to keep you independent from the relative Government of the Fort. As to lacks, Tincal and Drugs you decern aright. We would not have of them in great quantities except in wanting goods, but a small parcel by such ship, if the good sort and bought at ye best season of the year. You do well especially of good and clear Shellack, it is only in case of want of goods or to fill up tonnage that we directed you by the *Tavistock* to ship sorts of Gruff goods and 30 or 40 tons of pepper p. md. For if you can get them it is vastly more of interest to invest ye money in Muslins Taffaties, or other staple commodities of Bengall.

7. Your silk by the *Russell* Frigt was fouler than usual, not well sorted, and besides that ill packed therefore a great loss and injustice to us, as well as to the Shippings, in the falling off their tonnage, occasion the vacuity besides each of the round silk bundles, which the like in time to , especially where there is no want of goods for the tonnage lying upon your hands. The more money the owners get by the well storing their ships, the more profit will redound in time to ourselves by the lessening our freight.

8. You must make it you constant care that the *Martha* and *Anna*, and all other of our ships receive a nimble dispatch from you and not lye at all upon demurage but always dispeeded within the Charterparty time or else we oft pay four months demurage. We have been very sensible of ye loss ye dead stock being charged demurage has from time to time been to us, and must have it remedyed. Wee have agreed with the owners of all the present Coast and Bay shipping to pay off all the saltpetre loaden above ye 16 p. cent, but $11 p, ton, if required by the Captain, therefore load no more upon them than ye said proportion, except you agree with ye Commander for $11 p. ton as aforesaid; Saltpetre being now but a dull commodity, and no need of, great stores lying dead by us, since the happy conclusion of ye Peace.

9. You must also be always endeavouring to make us as full returnes by all our shipping as you can which will make our Estate have the freer circulation and we the sooner come at effects to return you fresh and larger supplys

10. The good cargoes received by these ships makes us very well approve the good settlement of your Councill, and shall be glad of constant occasions to give you our just commendation of all your future managements as we do as been hitherto.

11. Wee endeavours to promote frugal and honest there never was more used therefore as you occasion, to make of our Subordinate Factories, or to send up any person in the Country to make an Investment of goods as did Mr. Bouridge to Radnagur, take care to limit expenses to a certain moderate sum, never to be Remembering the multiplicity of Settlements, Age^{ts} on which at this time must be reduced into as narrow bounds as could be.

12. Wee rejoice to hear Chatanutte improves in health and much more that by a praiseworthy temperate conduct our people shut up that door thro: which deceases and death have broken in upon our Servants in Bengall and will do in the most temperate Climate.

13. Wee approve of your Fortifying Chutanutte as you are endored in our letter by the Tavistock, and since copies whereof are now sent and wish you have taken this opportunity to make y^{e} fortifications regular and as strong as you can, buildings being cheap in Bengall, your Bullworks well fenced with stone or brick y^{t} the rains may not prejudice nor wash them down; now or never must be your time to put in execution our repeated orders for years past to secure a fortified Settlement in Bengall. We are not solicious for the largeness so much as y^{e} strength of it, least it create a vast charge of man as tenable Soldiers to maintain it, however use all possible frugality therein and make it as you can, and you must carry it so evenly and calmly with the Government there that they may connive at, if not apply your fortifications, as it is most likely they will see you don't take any advantage thereby to with or oppose them, but if you could get an open approval of them by the Mogul or Nabob the better. We are informed by some persons lately come on the *Antelope* that the Dutch have made a factory impregnable, have set up for themselves and yet perswaded y^{e} Rajah what they did was only in own defence, while you too soon declared a reconcilation is report being now before us, wee shall till we hear further, before we absolutely believe it. In the meantime be secure yourselves to compleat your fortifications to carry it fair as you can with all the contending parties, and without an absolute necessity side with neither; and if you should be forced to joyn with either to do it in such a manner as will admit of a fair excuse, if questioned for it by the other; and y^{t} w^{t} you did was y^{e} effect of mere necessity not choice that Merchants desire no Enemies and would create none.

14. Your Canvas turnes to no account here, therefore send only the Charter party proportion.

15. Your directions for despeeding the *Antelope* we approve, but must tell you it is strongly reported here that she has a considerable quantity of goods on board belonging some say to our ownselves, others say to English freemen living within our jurisdiction, enquire strictly into the truth of it as we shall doe here; and if you find any of our Servants concerned therein suspend them our Service immediately, the like we say if any of our servants shall be found hereafter assisting, encouraging or abetting of Interlopers or their adherents, those Enemys to the good of the trade of India, be they who they will, proceed against them to the utmost, suspend them *ab Officio et Benefico.* If any free Merchants or others within your precints or reach, suffer not such ungrateful Vipers to harbour in that Bosom which gives them warmth and protection, but send them to the Fort or to England, one way or other be sure to root them out of Bengall or perplex or discourage them there, using all prudent methods within your power to frustrate and disappoint their voyage, either by proper presents to the ruling men, the Nabob or others, as you did tho somewhat too late to hinder the *Antelope* or by any other fit ways tending most effectually to discourage and destroy them. This is now a discrimanating or Enemys to licencious and we shall esteem a zealous care to disappoint them as one great Characteristick of a faithfull, and take notice of it accordingly.

16. Your building a double brick godown we do not think much of, considering the necessity you were under and the hazzard of fire, we think you did wise enough to appease the Merchants by the method you after so severe a loss and in making Cojah Panous . Factors easie in adjusting the Damaged

Broad to their satisfaction. Wee likewise approve of orders for providing some Luckcowries &c Goods whereby you may be better distinguished how well the Armenians deal with you in they are by contract to provide for our accompts.

17. Wee are sorry for so large a quantity of woollen goods being unsold, and therefore have sent but very little to you of India this yeare that you may have time enough for you to dispose of y^e remains in your Warehouse, and you receive new supplys. However do what you can' to promote y^e consumption of our cloth and other Europe product or manufacture, let none lie rotting in the Warehouse, sell as well as you can, but refuse to sell rather at or under Investment price than let it be spoiled y^t is a dead loss; and could you find an yearly vend for quantity of cloths we could be content to afford in Invoice price, our minds being intent to promote the consumption of our home commodities as nearly as wee can, if it would but yield us as much as silk sent from hence.

18. Your giving out our money beforehand for goods should not object unto in the way proposed, if you find advantage therein, our fear being only bad debts, prevent that, and then act according to your best discretion.

19. Wee

intolerable in our Estate your Country shipps, that we can scarcely add anything thereunto, keep no more of them than absolute necessity requires, we had much rather you hyred Country Vessels to help to load our great shipping than keep such ships at an annual charge for scarce two months service.

20. Your transactions with Cap^tn Blundell wee approve and shall, when the ships accompt comes to be adjusted, settle with his owners whatsoever remains in controversie touching those matters.

21. Wee are glad to hear your Town is so much increased of late, it must be your care to peruse our former letters and put in execution the several directions and orders wee have given you for raising a revenue to reimburse our expence, and make the place bear its own charge without which it is a vain thing to imagine the Comp^r can ever attain to any lasting Dominion in India. It is a revenue supports the Dutch Settlements in all places, without which they could never have attained, nor can preserve that grandeur and power they have acquired in those Eastern parts of y^e world.

22. Wee have bespoke the Wax Figures and glassware you write for, and intend to send them by these ships.

23. The China Goods brought by y^e Fleet Frigate from Sumatra are come to hand, but Mr. Langley's papers now arrived do not give us any account of y^e particulars nor of y^e true disposall of our cargoe on board y^e *Dorathy*, whereof he was sole Supra Cargo, whatever papers or Books remains behind as some here seem to fear, send them by the next with the accts of y^e marks and numbers of y^e Chests of silks &c &c, goods before your repacking, which doubtless will give

24. You did well to detain those damaged silks mention and fill up their room with better commodities as also to keep back the China Gold whose produce will turn to better account in Bengal than if brought hither in specie.

25. As we wrote you before, wee would have you carry it as evenly between the Mogul's Government and y^e rebell's forces as you can, taking all care that neither be displeased, our business lying best management of Mercantile affairs, and to have little to do with hard blows as possible, however in such times of danger wee cannot mislike y^r being upon your guard, for your own as well as our security, only wee recommend it to you to be husbands for us, and to ease us of the extraordinary charge of soldiers as soon as the danger is over.

26. wee have received none of y^e Ferrindams, which Mattradass promised to provide for you like Capt^n Blundell, but we find in the Fleet's Invoice six hundred pieces of goods called Ferrindams, which proves ordinary sort of cloth and worse then a Tanjeeb, however by y^t ship we have received one Bale of a very fine kind of Muslin called Mahmudens, send all you can of them, they will turn to account being better then any Muttradass provided by y^e said Captain.

27. You will herewith receive a list of goods procurable in Bengall to be provided wherein you will find some observations and opinions for y^{e} better improving of several of the Commodities therein mentioned, which you must take notice of, as if herein, particularly inserted, one her

broad sell much better then those of yard, because they are fitt for several uses, when split in the middle, which those of bare yard or little more will not serve without great loss, therefore send all you can of the severall sorts of Muslins of Ell wide or better, neither do they pay any more custom here unless of yard and half broad, so commending you and our affairs to the guidance and protection of the Almighty.

Wee have received a paper of complaint from D^{r} Davis of great injurie alledged to be done to his brother, M^{r} Thomas Davis by Agent Charnock in the year 1686, on account of his being engaged with the Interlopers against y^{e} *the Compy* it is confessed that none of his Estate came into y^{e} ships hands, neverthless wee recommend you that a strict enquiry be made as far as it is possible touching the whole affair and send us an account thereof by the next.

Wee have entertained M^{r} John Powell Chaplain for y^{e} Bay of Bengall at the sallary of 50£s per annum and 50 a year gratuity, of whom having had a satisfactory character of his Ministerial abilities, Wee thought fitt to send him into y^{e} Bay where wee hope he will be very serviceable and meet with due encouragement from you in his labours for promoting the Christian religion and keeping up the worship of God among you. His salary and gratuity is to commence from y^{e} time of his arrival with you.

Wee remain.

Your very loving firiends,

GEORGE BOHUN, Gov^{r},

W^{M} SEDGWICK, Deputy,

W^{M} LANGHORN,

J^{NO} MOORE,

THO^{S} ROWLINSON,

JE^{R} SAMBROOKE,

BOU^{R} BATHURST,

JN^{o} DISBOUNERICE,

SAM. AUGHLEY,

JN^{o} RUDGE,

TH^{o} FREDRICK,

P^{R} DOLEME,

JN^{o} HANGER,

NAT. MOUNTENEY.

Extract from the Honourable Company's letter to the President and Council of Fort St. George dated London the 16th April 1697.

* * * * * * *

The Bay subordinate to the Fort only in cases of justice &c.

51. Wee do so far continue our former orders of making the Bay subordinate to the Fort that in all cases of appeals and contests in courts of justice or equity which can't be determined in the Bay and must otherwise be brought before

us, those in the Bay shall have recourse to Fort St George to decide the same as also when any of our servants there can't by a judicial proceeding be otherwise obliged to give in a just account of our concerns under their management, but if any should appeal to the Fort and give great trouble without cause, wee would have them comdemned at great cost to the party agrieved and to the Company; but in matters of merchandize relating to our investments, wee will have the Bay depend only on ourselves, and send us their books of accts. and consultations and other books directly without going for to the Fort, the good effects whereof wee found in Agent Charnock's time when our Accounts were duly sent us from Bengall to the shame of all other our Factories in India.

* * * * * * *

London the 30th December 1698.

Our President and Council at Fort St. George.

The late Act of Parliament made for raising two millions by giving the Subscribers 8 per cent, and the trade to the East Indies does provide that the Subscribers may appoint and present to his Majesty an Ambassador for India which his Majesty may send thither, but the charge is to be defrayed by the Subscribers out of the duty of 5 per cent that is to be raised on the Trade as you will see by the project of the Act which was sent you some time since by the *Northumberland* Gally *viâ* Bombay, which 'tis hoped with what was wrote on that subject will be with you before this arrives.

The new Company have made choice of a person for an Ambassador and have presented him to his Majesty and intend to make great provision for his Equipage in order to his going to the great Mogul for what reason we cannot imagine unless it be to endeavour to distinguish betwixt the old and new Companies and to bring the old under the displeasure of the Government in India, which otherwise they own their new project will never take effect. But this has not at all operated on the adventures, nor do wee fear there wil be any great inconveniency from this Embassy, when the Company's affairs there are under such good conduct as you.

The person they have nominated is one Mr. Norris, a member of the House of Commons, one that is well known to our worthy President, and although 'tis thought by many they are not in earnest yet the Company will prepare themselves against the worst, and in case he does go on such an errand which 'tis judged will be very injurious to the English nation in general in their trade to India, you shall be furnished with such information of the Company's affairs, as 'tis not doubted but with your and the Compa other Agent's assistance will overthrow the design of our Enemies.

For which purpose wee have entertained Dr. Charles Davenant, who is also a Member of this new Parliament, and is well known to our President to be a person of eminent part and experiences, he is a gentleman that has been privy to all the transactions on our part in relation to this new Act of Parliament as well as most or all the material matters belonging to the Company, and being a Dr. of and well skilled in the Civil Law, wee design him as our Councill to transact such affairs in India as wee and our General President and Councill aboard shall find necessary in the present conjuncture. We do not design his residence to be at any particular factory nor to intermeddle in the management of our merchantile affairs, but in general fully to inform those that manage our affairs in India of the true state of our interest and just pretentations, that so you may the better judge what method to take for ourselves and further to take such measures as from our instructions, his own Prudence and on consultation with our General and Councill at Bombay and Surratt, and with yourselves, shall be found most conducing to the Preservation of our present and future interest as well in relation to our Trade as our Forts, Inheritances and Revenue.

You are to observe that in case this reported Ambassy be laid aside there will be also an end of our design of sending Doctor Davenant.

Pray communicate the contents of this letter to Bombay, Surratt and to the Bay of Bengall, so commending you and our affairs to the guidance and protection of the Almighty.

We remain,

Your very loving friends,

JOHN FLEET. *Govr.*,

W^{M} PRICHARD,

HEN^{Y} JOHNSON,

W^{M} HEATH,

SAM. DASHWOOD,

JOHATHAN ANDREWS,

WILLIAM HEWER,

W^{I} GORE,

W. COOKE,

J. MOORE,

R. COCKE,

HAM KEKEWICK,

SAMUEL PITTS.

London the 26th August 1698.

Our Agent and Councill of Bengal.

1. Wee have your letters by the *Sidney* and *Sampson* dated the first December and 20th of January last who arrived in safety with us for which God be praised, and we are very well satisfied with the whole conduct of our affairs under your management desiring you to persist to send all unfaithful and extravagant persons in their expenses to the fort, *Corpora cum causa*, to be there judged or acquitted, and if other Captains shall refuse as Captain South did to comply with your orders, let us know their names as you did now and they shall no more serve us.

2. Your Shellack will come to a great market; provide what more you can thereof speedily to prevent the Interlopers getting any of it now or hereafter.

3. Meuthadas we find to be the very man you take him for, and you may accordingly make use of him as you judge it serves for our interest and not otherwise. How his goods sell compared with others of the same sorts and prices you shall know particularly when our sales are over.

4. Your design of improving our revenue is a most acceptible and natural service, and we desire you to pursue it by all the prudent methods you can.

5. We approve of the fortification you have made and wish you to strengthen it by degrees as you can without any public offence to the country or y^{e} great men.

6. We have wrote to our President and Councill at Fort S^{t} George that we are so well satisfied with your actings in our affairs this and some years past that we will have no alteration made in your Councill, none added to you, nor none removed out of your Councill by any order, except under the hands of the Governour or Deputy and 13 of our Committees, and therefore we desire M^{r} Beard (who has written to some of his friends that he intends for England) that he would for our service suspend that resolution.

7. You have done extraordinary well in reducing the out-factories since you can do our business better at Chuttanuttee (which is our own town) which will in a little time render the place populous, and thereby increase our revenue, and by saving the charge of out-factories you will have 5 or 6,000 £ value, the more to invest, which is the point of most concern to us especially while we are haunted with Interlopers.

8. You say you have accounted with Koja Surhad and paid him y^e balance 3,131 rupees 10 ans, ¾, and there remains only to account with him for y^e interest due to us, for his not bringing in his goods in time. Wee think you had done better to have deducted that matter from the ballance before you had paid it unto him.

9. We now proceed to new matter and to save the labour of repetition We send you inclosed copies of our list to our Generall S^r John Gayer and of all the material papers belonging to that packet, by which you will see a strange face of things here, and if you could see ours likewise you would see that we are less dismayed at this catastrophe then we were at the nimbling Interlopers, well knowing that when things are the worst they must mend; and believing by our long experience in the East India trade that two East India Companies in England can no more subsist without destroying one or y^e other, than two Kings at the same time reign in the same Kingdom, and that we don't intend to cross the cudgells to the new gamesters you will easily observe by the great number of ships and great cargoes we resolve to send to all places this ensuing season.

10. The principal end of hastening out this ship the *Northumberland* Galley is to acquaint our servants aboard with our resolutions of sending out so great a stock, wherein we are steadfast, not doubting of the means of procuring so much ready money by the usual proper seasons our ships should be ready to take it in.

11. As to that Clause in our letter to the General concerning providing goods beforehand, that which most immediately concerns you is that you have gruff goods enough, lacks, and such as are to be had on your side of India, but more especially, and which was our first intention in writing that clause, we recommend to you the providing of a great quantity of Raw Silk and Floretta Yarn before hand or agreeing for it, if you have not present money to pay for it, which we believe you have not but may have upon Interest, and do now think it is worth our while, that is until our ships arrive with you. The reason of our pressing this paragraph so home upon you is because the crop of silk failing in France, Italy, and Turkey we conclude Raw Silk must continue a commodity of great price as it is now in all parts of Europe.

12. Your advise if you had money beforehand you could provide those extraordinary sorts of goods which we write for and which after our money arrives you have not time to give out money for this, we know is a great truth, but in ancient times when money was much more plentiful with the Company than it is now, we never thought it our Interest to have a stock beforehand in Bengall or anywhere else, where we were not satisfied or had no confidence in our Servants that were in most power. The case is now altered, for we can trust you entirely and you are in a good measure fortified, but there is a 3^d accident intervenes which is a try all of skill you may call it if you please, a Civil Battle between us and the new Company, and two or three years' strife must end the controversy, for the old or the new must give way. Our joints are to stiff to yield to our juniors. We are Veteran Soldiers in this warfare, and if our servants aboard in other places do their parts as well as we are sure our good General Sir John Gayer and you will do yours, we don't doubt of the Victory, and if the rest of the world laugh at us to see what pains we take to undo one another we can't help it, it is no fault of ours, we think we are upon our own ground, we have a Charter and when the three years are out, we have not only a property in all our Revenues and possessions aboard, but also the same Act of Parliament for 31,5000£ per annum trade as our new merchants, which call themselves the new Company pretend to have, and if you buy up the silk as aforesaid you will very much disappoint them.

13. You must observe and we accordingly mention it in this letter, that you may note the alterations made in y^e list of goods to be provided now sent

you are very few, viz^{t}, instead of 40 tons of Raw Silk we say now 100 tons, meaning if you can get it, instead of 15 tons of Floretta yarn, we say now 40 tons instead of 5,000 Dimmityes, we say now 15,000 pieces, to which we add for your information that Clyne in the Interloping ship Antelope bought a great many of them in the Country two or three days journey above Ballasore which turned to a very good account and were fine and white, but we don't prescribe to you that particular place, but that you should buy them where you can get them best, whitest and cheapest.

14. You need not think yet of settling a new factory at Patana, for by what we can observe by your list we think you have Petre enough already to serve all our designed next year's shipping.

15. We command and strictly charge you to dispatch all our ships in y four months time y^{t} we may pay no demurrage, and we shall never admit of any excuse in the breach of this order.

16. Send no sail cloth, white or brown, from your place on any pretence whatsoever nor any more bolts of Canvas or Cotton Yarn or other goods prohibited in y^{e} list of goods sent you by our shipping, or in y^{e} directions or observations on the said list accompanying these, so commending you and our affairs to the guidance and protection of the Almighty.

We remain,

Your very loving friends.

J^{NO} FLEET, Governur.

TH^{OS} FREDERICK, Deputy.

SA^{M} DASHWOOD.

HE^{N} JOHNSON.

J^{NO} JOHNSON.

RI^{C} COCKE.

JON^{TT} ANDREWS.

W^{M} PRICHARD.

SA^{M} KEKEWICK.

J^{NO} MOORE.

W^{M} GORE.

RI^{C} MOUNTENEY.

W^{M} HEATH.

JAM^{S} BULL.

JO^{S} HERNE.

W^{M} HEWER.

G. of India C. P. Office.—No. 865 F. D.—18-8-92.—500.

[*Fort S^{t} Geore Letters sent 1689.*]

Fort S$_{t.}$ George, y^{e} 28th February 168$\frac{8}{9}$.

To His Excellency Sir John Child, Bar^{tt}, Generall of all the, English Forces in India, &^{c}.,
Councill.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—

We have waited thus long in hopes to have sent you certain advices of the designe and actions of our Forces in Bengall, but to this time we have only their doubtfull resolutions and noe other news of of their proceedings then what the enclosed Generall Letter will enforme you, to which we referr Your Excellency, &^{c}., for that all other occurrenceys in and state of our affairs in these parts to this time which, after you have perused please to forward to our Right Hono'ble Masters by the safeest and soonest opportunity that presents. We also send Your Excellency, &^{c}., coppy of our last by sloop *Princess*, which accompanyed the R^{t} Hon'ble Companyes Pacquetts and many particular letters which we hope arrived you safely taking the best cource for it we could propose to meet with.

The *Rochester* was dispatched the 21st Ins^{t} and sailed the next night (with her tonnage, or very near it in the Hon'ble Company & permissive goods) which we hope will returne her home in season and a welcome shipp to their Honours and owners. The Dutch having been very kind and assisting in her repair att Zealone, we are dispatching the *Williamson* in few dayes to the West Coast with Stock, Stores, and necessaryes where we doubt not she will find a loadeing of pepper to send her thence yearly home; it would be a great service to the Hon'ble Company if you could spare them some assistance from your parts as Factors, Soldiers, and black labouring handicrafts since we cannot provide sufficient here; the loss of the many we formerly sent, discouraging others to adventure thither, but the place is now more healthy by the convenient buildings they have made there, which if neglected or deserted or that the Pepper trade fails us shall be att an irrecoverable loss, that being the chief dependence for the tradeing most of our Shipps now in Bengall, little being to be expected from those parts, the war or famine has destroyed or removed most of the Weavors in the Countrey so that Cloth is so scarce that we cannot expect to procure more then to lade one Shipp haveing had great trouble in procuring what we have done for the *Rochester*. If the Generall comes not himself (as we hope he will) pray send us your advise and direction about the dispose of Europe shipping being the *Resolution*, *Princess* and *Defence* and *Persia Merchant* expected from the West Coast with 7 or 8 Countrey Shipps and little or noe employment for them, except for grain which will not half beare their charges groweing plentifull and cheap in all parts. Pray advise if you can provide for any more then you have already upon your hands, and how much tonnage we may send you if we cannot well lade or employ them here, since the R^{t} Hon'ble Compy. writes us we must expect their mindes and orders from you which when we receive shall be duly observed to our power. The last we received from His Excellency, &c., were of the———— which is so long since that we cannot but doubt his letters are miscarryed or intercepted since advices are of such great importance to the present state of the R^{t} Hon'ble Company's affairs; from M^{r} Harris, &c., att Surratt, we received severall short letters, the last of which was of the advising His Excellencey's arrivall att Swally to treat with the Nabob about a generall peace and Phirmaund which we earnestly hope and pray may be successfully effected since our whole relyance is thereon.

We have severall complaints from M^{r} Styleman and M^{r} Alvarces and Factors of the free and permissive China Shipping of the great unkindness and disincouragement of one M^{r} Salway accidental Supra Cargo of Ship *Ceesar* both at Malacca and Amoy, that he was very rigorous with them notwithstanding their severall Commissions for warfair, instructions for trade, and order for their deportment, and to assist the R^{t} Hon'ble Company's servants whereever they mett them, two of the R^{t} Hon'ble Company's Factors were also on board with considerable adventures of theirs consigned to them as per their Instruction and Invoyces, but it seems all would not doe, they must be prisoners, and prohibited trade, and be led Captive with them, or give bonds for we know not what which to save their voyages was conscented to, nor was he less impudent to forbid the deliverye of the President's letter to the Generall, &c., of Amoy, which might be concluded were dictated with as great sence and considerations of the good of the R^t^ Hon'ble Company, and with as great experience as his wisdome could have framed, but it seems they complyed with that too which we are extreamly sorry for, being letters of great import satisfying their many doubts and demands about an adventure of Tea *Burton* carryed for some of the China Officers, also their many scruples about M^r^ Barron, and his unfortunate voyage and miscarrage on the China Junck, and a greater subject then both was, the excusing that wicked inhumane action of the English Pyratts taking and destroying their Junck near Malacca, the chief of which Company came thence hither demanding satisfaction for their losses who were treated with great civility and charge, returning them upon these Shipps well satisfyed that were noe occasion of their misfortune, detesting and punishing such horred actions, three sad examples thereof they were spectators of; and these things were urged to him to be the contents of the letter, notwithstanding they must be silenced, and his own unexperienced products profered, wherein we thinck he did much amiss in accepting a list of their losses which M^r^ Barron upon the Junck giving them encouragement in his letter to hope a satisfaction, which most certainly they will expect, and may some time fall heavey upon the R^t^ Hon'ble Company or particular traders thither which we doubt so ill a Government and people will improve to their advantage. Then his taking the Hon'ble Company money from M^r^ Wilcox to pay some unreasonable Chinees demands on Capt^n^ Barton for Thea sold here by him for some Chinees account, the real product whereof was paid, but they being not contented with the produce presse for more which M^r^ Salway thought fitt to grant out of the Hon'ble Company's Cash which will be difficult to recover by justice from Capt^n^ Barton with the advance thereon from China, which shall be legally endeavoured, but if not procurable we leave it to yo^r^ Excell^y^, &c., to consider whether M^r^ Salway ought to endemnifye their honors, M^r^ Wilcox telling us 'twas his sole advice and act there and many other complaints which we omitt, but could not these, from the importunity of our friends believing such actions contrary to the orders and desirês, therefore we doubt not you will prevent them for the future, otherways it may prove a great disincouragement to our trade, which their honours pressingly desires, and commands us to promote all we can, which has been our endeavors, it redounding to their great advantage by improving the Revenues and Customs of the Cittye and strengthening and enriching it with men, mony, Shipping, the want whereof will soon reduce it to a chargable inconsiderable place which we know you wish and designe better to. The last Shipp from China and Malacca arriving here yesterday can tell us noe news of our Tonqueen Shipping which make us doubt their safety, or that the troubles of those parts detain them there, which with our respects is what offers from—

Your Excll^y^. &c.,

Most faithful friends and Servants,

ELIHU YALE,

NATH. HIGGINSON,

JOHN BRIGGS,

JOHN LITTLETON,

THOMAS WAVELL,

WILL^M^ FRASER,

WILL^M^ CAWLYE,

THOMAS GRAY.

Fort St. George, April y^e 30th 1689.

To His Excell^y Sir John Child,
Barronett, General of the English Forces in India &c., Councill.

Our last was of y^e 28th February with all necessary advices to that time as these give to this, which comes by the *Carwar* copies, who brought us coppy of your letter to them whose unhappy quarters greatly troubled and surprized us, having a few days before received advice from Callicutt that his Excellency, &c. had accommodated all differences to an honorable advantageous peace with a paper signed to coppy of the articles of Agreement which we doubt was only a treacherous design of the faithless Nabob to defy our friends and Stock into their possession, however we hope the more rigorous course you have now resolved on will affectually reduce them to a just complyance, and the Moguls grant of a generall full Phirmaund for the R^t Hon'ble Company better and more secure Settlement of their Factories and trade within his territories which now near include all or will doe in a short time, noe forces being able to oppose his conquest tho' they may a little delay it. As for our late warfair in Bengall under the conduct of Capt^n William Heath, it has no other success then the return of all the R^t Hon'ble Company's Shipps, Servants and Stock from thence where they acted little of consequence more then the rash assalting Ballasore with the loss of about 20 men, designing to fetch of a few people and goods there, which they affected as to part of the goods, much of them being burnt upon the allarm of their landing, but the men were all but two carryed prisoners up the countery beyound their reach or power home, since we here are carryed captives to Dacca where with M^r Braddill and M^r Eyres they remain under confinement.

Captain Heath with his Fleet about to saill and 200 soldiers sayled from Ballasore to Chettagawm where they attempted nothing but a visit and Surveigh, and finding it to forceable and unteanable for them they peaceably sailed thence for Arracan where after refreshing their and some short treatyes with the King, &c., they returned hither the 4 march, who we have since disposed the best way our condition and circumstances would permitt; but for your Excellency's fuller satisfaction we have sent you the best account we can gett from Capt^n Heath, &c., of that negotiation, also our Generall to the Hon'ble Company, wherein we have particularly recounted all transactions worthy their Hon^s notice, to which we humbly referr you, desiring after your perusall you please to forward them to their Hon^s by the first opportunity, which probably may arrive there before the *Williamson viâ* West Coast.

The greatest troubles we at present labour under is the scarcity of goods which are not procurable on this Coast, the countery being so much desolated by the late famine and continued Warrs that it cannot be expected to replenish in some years, so that it will be a great difficulty to procure ladeing for the Shipping home, but we shall doe what is possible to be done, but we hope to pick up a ladeing to dispatch one Shipp in August or September and possibly another in January, but for the rest there's little hopes, but from the West Coast if your Excellency, &c., can think of any better cource, pray give us your orders first.

The *Princess,* Cap^tn Haddock, we have lett to the Jews for pgs. 15,000 freight for Amoy, and send the *Defence,* Cap^tn Heath, upon the Hon'ble Company's account (if they approve it) to lade Sugars Tunage at Macau for Persia; the *Williamson* and *Resolution* for the West Coast, the *Persia Merchant* we designed for England, had she not most unhappely blown up in the Road there. Justly what accident we cannot learn, all the men aboard which were about 47 souls were sadly lost in the fatal misfortune. Captain Brangwing and 10 of his men were saved by being ashoare, and tho' 'twas a dreadfull loss yett it happened there were only 20 piggs of lead of their Hon^rs aboard, and but little else of others.

We doubt the late troubles in Bengall and with you (if they continue) will suddainly bring some on this place, it being already the discource and threats of the Mogull's Camp (about 40 miles distant from us) to assault us, but we are well prepaired for defence both in men, provision and ammunition, but we hope they will still be civill and continue the friendly correspondence w^{ch} we have hitherto maintained.

We should gladly see or hear from the Generall, and cannot but wonder att the long silence, but are inclined to believe it proceeds from the ——— exception or loss of your packett, since the Rt. Hon. Company advise us we must expect orders from you which we are very desirous, of which with our humble respects is what presents from—

Your Excellency's, &c.,
Most faithfull friends and
Obedient Servants,

ELIHU YALE,
JOHN LITTLETON,
THO^{S} WAVELL,
JOHN CHENEY,
THO^{S} FRASER,
WILL^{M} CAWLY,
THO^{S} GRAY.

Fort St. George, 16^{ht} October 1689.

To M^{R} CHARLES EYRES, &c., English in Bengall.

Three days past we received your welcome letter and news of your releasement from confinement and troubles by the just favour of the good and worthy new Nabob, whose perwanna we also received which give us great hopes and incouragement of our resettlement, so we would have you deport your selves accordingly, and by noe means either by word or action give him the least occation of displeasure, tho' we must also enform you which we would have you be very private, in that our differences and troubles with the Mogull, continue still at Bombay, as also that our Factory at Vizagapatam was lately seized upon and severall of the Company's Servants destroyed there, so notwithstanding the fair promises and aspects of affairs now in Bengall, you must be very cautious of your selves that you be not also surprized with their cruelty.

In a few days we shall write att large to the Nabob, and as kindly and respectfully as his obligeing perwanna deserves, hoping that his wisdom and goodness will so favourably represent our troubles to the King as may appeas and direct his displeasure, we have also thought that as soon as the season will permitt to send a Shipp and some persons to treat with him about our resettlement, in the meantime you may assure him of our peaciable and friendly carriage to his subjects, and that we have due sence and esteem of his kindness to you and the Company's affairs, which God Almighty restore to their former good condition. Omitt no opportunity to advise of all news and occurrences in your parts by your peons. We shall write more large by your Pattamar, so shall add noe more att presant, but to wish you safe and well being.

Your very affectionate friends,

ELIHU YALE,
JOHN LITTLETON,
THO^{S} WAVELL.
JNO. CHENEY,
W^{M} FRASER,
W^{M} CAWLY,
THO^{S} GRAY.

Government of India Central Printing Office—No. 712 F. D.—21-7-92—500.

London, ye 26th February 1702.

OUR PRESIDENT AND COUNCILL OF FORT WILLIAM—

1. Wee wrote you under ye 5th of March last by the *Wentworth*, ye last ship sent from hence directly to you, copy whereof is inclosed, wherein we advised you, that the union of both Companys was in the main heads and Articles of it agreed to, since which by the Surat Shipping, the Court of Managers for the united trade wrote to you, the 31st July and 24th Septr, that the union was perfected, and at ye same time sent you printed copies of ye Charter of Union and Quinque partite Indenture which contain the terms of Agreement at large, and in the said letter they directed you how the dead stock was to be managed, what charges each Company was to bear apart, and what were to be placed to ye United Account in ye books that were to be began anew from the 22nd July, as by ye said letters whereto we refer you, will more at large appear, which letter each Company gave cover to and sent their own instructions along with it, copy of ours bearing date ye 4th August accompany's this.

2. What relates to ye future trade to ye Bay being under ye direction of the Court of Managers only, and of neither Company apart, we referr you to their letters on that account which will make these advances much ye shorter and cause us to omit giving answer to many material paragraphs in your letters now before us received by the *Sidney* and *Josia* dated the 11th of August, 8th of January, and 4th of February 1701.

3. We observe in general, the continued dearness of all goods by which means ye loading home the quantitys wrote for and filling up the tonnage sent you has run you in debt in the Bay, so that we have reason to believe you will have but little remains in Quick Stock in the Bay, after the despatch of the *Wentworth* although you should receive the supplies we ordered from the Fort, on which acct we need not be large in our instructions as to investments, and shall only in general say whatever remains you have sent them home in Goods good of their kind, and likely to turn to ye best account, but not too much of any sort, or at least of those sorts wherein the new Company returns the largest part of their separate effects, or ye United Company's servants, their consignments. Wee have told you formerly ye great duty's laid on all goods that go under ye denomination here of Muslins, and that ye prohibited goods are only for exportation, but raw silke is always a commodity if it be of the A.B. C.D. sorts, and good of the kind, so is Floretta Yarn of the highest numbers; Cotton Yarn if fine, will sell well, but it is bulky; fine Muslins of clear and smart threads, and not frayey or woolly, and bought at the nearest prices, six or seven years ago, will turn to a very good account. Lacks of all sorts are like to be of less value than formerly, because ye Captains being prohibited from trading in measured goods as you will see by the Indulgence accompany this, have little besides Lacks in ye Bay to lay out their money in.

4. Saltpetre being likely to turn to very good account in Europe, because of ye Warr, If you have remains by you, and had or can procure us a good quantity and very fine if possible without any refraction, or as little as may be, you will do very well to send it on our own shipping, or on ye United Company's for our account.

5. Being by the Deed of Union to wind up each Company their old bottom, we have nothing to recommend to you of greater importance then ye settling and adjusting all depending accounts, which we therefore order you to sett about with all diligence, as to one part of them, namely ye account of our servants wages, we would have you settle them as follows *vizt.*

6. Such of our servants as are taken into ye United Management, from that day ye Court of Managers are to pay their sallaries, and consequently to bear their charges of dyett and accommodations, and our charge on those accounts

ceases, but least any of them should thereby suppose they are discharged from making up their own accounts or assisting in bringing up their books, or doing any other matter incumbent upon them to discharge their duty to us, we give you and them this caution, that although we have in Generall consented that if the Court of Managers may employ any of our servants yet we will not permit such of our Factors or others to be entertained in their service, shall refuse to do their duty as aforesaid, we say nothing here as to our four Councillors joined with ye four of ye New Company, not doubting but they will do what becomes them in this affair. When our servants are so entertained and have done their parts and duty's as aforesaid, certifie to us what is due to them on ye ballance of their accounts, and we will pay it here to their assigns, or if they had rather will send it them out on their Risque on the next shipping in Bullion according to their order, in case the United Company continue, as we doubt not, but they will permit money to be sent out to India to their servants.

7. If there should be any that are not so entertained and are willing to continue in India as free Merchants or come home, you may permit them so to do, when our affairs don't require their further employment, and at such time settle their accounts and advise us, that we may pay the ballance, for such of them as will stay in our service they may till ye expiration of their Covenants or our further orders.

8. Altho' we have by agreement seven years to wind up our Bottome, and the New Company ye like yet, we are both resolved to shorten that time as much as we can, and therefore recommend to you to clear all remains, settle all accounts and adjust all debts with ye very first opportunity.

9. By the Quinque partite Indenture and Deed of Union herewith sent, you will see what it is yt comes under the denomination of dead stock, and what quick stock, you have former directions for sending us an inventory of ye dead stock which we expect in due time, as to the quick stock you must apply yourselves to turn that into money or money's worth as soon and as well as you can, and as we will on our parts strictly observe ye Articles of agreement as to what concerns us here, so we recommend to you to do ye same on your part and allow all for dead stock ye Indenture mentions but no more. We observe you say you had more great guns, large anchors, Red lead and varities than would vend in Bengall in some years, if so you may sell any of the guns to the Councill if they want them for ye Fort at Markett price, ye like to the Commanders of Europe ships as to anchors, or else you may send them to the Fort, or to Surratt, or any other ye best Markett, we being much concerned to see our remains render us their utmost value, and shall esteem our servants accordingly.

10. As to ye debts standing out in ye Country, you must be equally careful in getting them in, on ye best terms you can as you did in ye case of Peraumy and Ramjibon, nor must you lett goe the great debts we formerly wrote you about owing at Cassimbuzar and elsewhere, but recover them as far as you are able in part where you can't in whole.

11. Advise us by your next how you settled ye acct of seven thousand five hundred rupees which you write the Merchants at Cassimbuzar will not admit they received and Peraumey ye Broker says he gave them, we must not loose a penny of that money, therefore see right be done us by the Broker, or Merchants or, ye Cashire, and lett all our people be more careful to prevent such occasions of contest in future.

12. Wee hope you have staved off the Princes expected present till now, and then if any must be paid to keep fair weather with him, the Councill for the United trade must take care about it, because the benefit expected thereby will accrue to ye United Trade wherein as we are concerned, so shall we pay but a moiety, you will easily see the reason why we are more then ordinarily concerned to save every penny we can att this time, but if you should find it absolutely and unavoidably necessary for the recovery in any of our old or latter debts to Peishcush ye Prince or other proper persons, we leave that to your

prudence so as to do as the exigency of ye case requires, but with the least expence you can.

13. Our revenues must be also applied to the benefit of ye United Trade from the 22d July last, but you must take care that all arrears due to that day be brought to our account, and that the Soldiers and other Military or Garrison Officers, and those employed in collecting the revenue, the persons belonging to the shipping, the charges of the shipping and small vessels, and all other matters and charges whatsoever belonging to, or arising on account of the Dead Stock conveyed as aforesaid, are to be placed to ye account of ye United Trade from ye said 22d of July.

14. Whatsoever Naval or Garrison Stores, or Factor's provisions are remaining by you, which were invoiced to you to be made use of on account of the shipping Fort or factory's use, and are so used, are to be reckoned among the dead stock, but not anything of the species of goods invoiced to you as merchandizes ; all such being plainly excepted out of the Dead Stock unless you should have applied any of them to ye purpose, which we expect you have been better husband them to have done.

15. If you should chance to have any of our Europe shipping with you, and their Charter party's allowance, ye Captains are willing that they stay in the Country, you may keep them till ye next season if you can by letting them out on freight or otherwise employing them, gain as much as will earn their demmorage, because by that means we shall have their earnings in the Country, and only pay their demmorage on their return hither.

16. If any persons are willing to pay you any money into our cash, you may receive it for such sums as you may want for clearing our accounts, and give them bills of exchange on us after ye rate of two shillings seven pence a rupee, payble 30 days after sight here, which shall be paid accordingly, and this we would have you give notice of to all persons.

17. As to our debts we are not able to write particularly till we receive your books to see how and when they were contracted, and what they are, but they may be cleared off too, and we earnestly recommend to see wee are honestly dealth with therein. You write ye Dadne Merchants that did not bring in their goods in time, you had obliged to allow six months interest for that loss, but you must tell them if we were only six months sufferers thereby such alowance was reasonable, but all our creditors expect interest from ye time ye money was lent, and if you by such want of goods were forced to take up goods at interest or the money that bought them which is all one, they ought to make good our losses from that time till ye next season of sending goods for Europe.

18. The broker's allowance will be near if not quite at an end before this reaches your hands, but we have wrote so fully about it, we can't add anything thereto, if you can do no better we must submit to it, although there is a great difference between a settled salary and half per cent on ye whole investment, ye continuance or ye discontinuance of him will be ye future business of the Councill who manage this present Investment.

19. We are glad to hear ye Town increases and therewith ye Revenue, you must keep ye account of Revenues very private, it is enough our cash feels the benefit, but it were better ye report made them much less then what they truly are, least the Prince be tempted to expect yearly presents to let you enjoy them at ease, whatever presents you are forced to give after ye said 22d July ought to be deducted out of their amount and not paid by us alone.

20. Your appointing Sutlers to victuall the Soldiers so well and cheap we approve of.

21. If Mr Redshaws and Mr Walde be at Patna when this comes to hand and the new Management makes use of them, then they are to pay their salary and charges from such time, ye like we say of any other settlements where our servants are.

22. Red earth will never do here on any terms, y^e last we had from Surratt did not sell above eight shillings six pence a hundred, customs freight and prime cost included.

23. If the new house you were about building in y^e middle of the Fort was done before the 22^d July we must pay for it, if it was not we would have it forborn now till the Council for the United trade give order about it.

24. M^r Home has given in his charge against M^r Hasley, and we have heard him, but he has not made it out, so we shall say no more of them, we shall be glad if it crosses y^e old proverb and that there is so much smoke without some fire.

25. As to the two Bills of exchange drawn on us payable to Nathaniel Higginson Esq^{re} and Coja Mallur Anwannoes, we refer you to the enclosed order of Court of y^e 22^d Jan^y last, which will fully inform you y^e reasons why we have not paid them as yet, and on what terms we shall be ready to doe it hereafter.

26. We had several debates in y^e Court of Mannagers, that is to say, the twelve of our members who with twelve of y^e New Companys make up that Court touching the persons to be employed by each Company in the future trade, and at last mutually resolved that for the present Investment y^e four of Council of each Company should act as one United Company, and the two first therein, namely, M^r Halsey and M^r Hedges, should take the chair weekly, this we the rather inclined to because the Gentlemen for y^e New Company have shewed us that y^e greatest part of their separate effects in India are and will be in the Bay, and therefore and for y^e common security of both, that their residence should be at Culcutta, and for y^e future benefit of us all and of the place, that should be the head factory as being a place, where their and our Estates are better secured then in any other place in Bengall in case of y^e Mogul's death or other accident which may occasion troubles in the Country, but in the Managers Orders by this conveyance we have taken particular care, that our President shall have all due respects paid him as such and continue in his present accommodations, and the United Councill are directed from time to time to support his character in such a manner as may preserve and keep us his authority with the Natives, for the better enabling him and his Councill to manage our separate concerns to our utmost advantage, and you are to have the use of such Ware-houses for that purpose as you shall have occasion for and our own servants, their own or other convenient apartments, but though wee have thus particularly taken this necessary care, we think there will be y^e less need of it when we consider that our own four Councill have an equal share in y^e present United management, and we can't harbour so much as a doubt that they will give the least countenance to any matter or thing that may either directly or in consequence in y^e least impead or hurt our separate Estate, or y^e turning it to our most advantage.

27. It was needful that the eight Councillors should have y^e command and direction of the Fort, Revenues, and Civill management of y^e Towns, because by the Deed of Union and Quinque partite Indenture, the New Company have purchased an equall share of that, and all other our Dead stock as we also have of theirs.

28. This constitution of the Councill and their management is only for this year, both Companies being sensible that it is more eligible to have one person to be at y^e head of affairs than two, but it was thought to be the second best expedient, and when we have on each side our next shipping from India, we shall be able to come to a resolution on that head, wherein each Company will be influenced as y^e merit of their respective Presidents appears; in y^e meantime, both Companys reckon that their said Presidents will have the more leisure to attend their separate affairs and settle the same according to the intent of y^e matter of Union, w^{ch} directs y^e each Company are to wind up their severall bottoms in India, with all convenient speed without intermixing one with another or either, with y^e future United Trade.

29. Wee sent you over last year M^{r} Philip Midleton as a Factor whom we had for several years taken into our immediate care and kept him at school till he went from hence, we would have you prefer him as he shall be found to deserve, and in regard he carried with him only cloths and necessaries for y^{e} Voyage, doe you supply him with ten pounds more for recruting him therewith, so commending you and our affairs to y^{e} guidance and protection of y^{e} Almighty,

We remain,

Your loving friends,

JOHN FLEET, *Gov^{r}.*

CHARLES DUBOIS.

JONATHAN ANDREWS.

NATHANIEL HERNE.

THOMAS COOK.

JAMES BULL.

ARTH. MOOR.

FRED. HERNE.

PETER JOYE.

WILLIAM PRICHARD.

THOS. ROWLINSON.

W^{M} HEMER.

JAMES CRAGGS.

SAM^{L} DASHWOOD.

THOS. COULSON.

JAMES GRAY.

Exd.—P. K. B.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 681 F. D.—15-7-92.—500

[*Public Despatches from England, 1702—1705, Vol. 13.*]

London, the 31st July 1702.

Our President and Councill at Fort ST George—

This comes to acquaint you that both Companys having agreed to write, as hath been already advised to their respective Factorys, the Charter of Union past the Great Seal the 22nd of July instant, and the next day each Company put their Seals to the same, copy whereof goes herewith, whereby you will see that the 315,000£ which the old Company had in the Generall Society is united to the Joynt Stock of the New Company, at the same time were executed the Writings and Agreements mentioned there, all dated the 22nd July.

2. By one Instrument it is declared, that the Old Company's three Ships, *vizt*, The *Howland*, Captn Thomas Hayes, Comãnder, and the *Regard*, Captn Thomas Warner, Comãnder, bound for Surat, and the *Gloucester* Frigot, Captain Phillip Browne, Comãnder, bound for Bencoolen; And the New Company's three Ships, *vizt* the *Mary*, Captn Christopher Lyell, Comãnder, and the *Katherine*, Captn James Tennifer, Comãnder, both bound for Surrat, and the *Samuell* and *Anna* Captn Finch Reddall, Comãnder, bound for Borneo, now going out should remain for the separate Accompt of the respective Companys.

3. Another Writing conveys the Dead Stock of the Old Company to the English Company, and declares, that the said English Company are to stand possessed thereof, and of their own Dead Stock, for the benefit of ye United Trade, And for your direction therein, we send you a copy thereof, to which we refer you, And accordingly the respective Governours and Officers of all the Forts and Castles, and other the Dead Stock are in their respective places to take care of them for the benefit of the United Trade, you will also find a Covenant in the Deed of Union, that each Company is to bear the charges and receive the Profits and arrears of their respective Dead Stocks to the said 22nd July, To which purpose the severall Bookes in each Factory must be balanced to the said 22nd of July, And New Bookes be————time for the United Trade and Management, wherein you————charges which do directly relate to the Forts————————But the charges of each————————
Trade are to be born by————————————————————————

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cause an Inventory to be taken of the Dead Stock in each place, the first opportunity a copy thereof, and an account in what state and condition.

4. Pursuant to the said Charter of Union, The Courts of each————————the 24 Managers, for managing the said United Trade, And you and any————to follow the order of the majority of the said Court of Managers, and to the Dead Stocks of both Companies and the Management of the————————.

5. The New Company at the same time transferred one hundred thousand three hundred seventy-five Pounds to the Old, Being that of the Fund, agreed to be sold and transferred to them, to make————therein equall, And the Old Company paid for the same partly by————and the rest in mony, and past mutuall receipts for the said Dead Stock.

6. We are also to add, that it is the direction of each Company in all their Settlements be preparing as fast as they can to get————and settle their depending Accounts, That the present bottom of————in India and England may be wound up within the seven years————Charter of Union, Altho' it is hoped it will be done much sooner; both Companies have mutually covenanted in the said Charter,————and Servants shall be assisting each to the other in this affair.————Union having put a full stop to all your late————And the Trade to India being settled on the firm basis of————and a large Stock, We have a hopefull prospect that the same——become more——flourishing than ever to the honour of our—— of the Adventurers, and that we shall mutually concur to——the English Reputation in India.

Upon receipt hereof to whomsoevers hands it shall——direct that they communicate the same to the Gentlemen of——and that as soon as conveniently they can they meet together——execution these our Orders. We are—

Your loving friends,

JOHN FLEET,

SAMUEL DASHWOOD,

WILLIAM PRICHARD,

RICHARD ACTON.

GEORGE DODINGTON.

JONATHAN ANDREWS,

THOS. VERNON,

HENRY FURNESE,

Name illegible.

GILBERT HEATHSOTE,

JAMES CRAGGS,

Orders and Instructions Given by the United Trade of Managers to Thos. Pitt, Esq^{r}., President and Governor, M^{r}. Gabriel Roberts, M^{r}. Francis Ellis, M^{r}. William Frazier, M^{r}. Thomas Wright, M^{r}. Thos. Marshall, and M^{r}. Danl. Dubois of Council at Fort S^{t}. George, for the United Trade to the East Indies.

We the Managers for the United Trade to the East Indies did by our Letter of the 31st July last by the Ships bound to Surrat advise to the Factorys of each Company, That the Union between both Companyes was perfected, And the 24th September by the same Ships we wrote again directed as before Copyes whereof go here enclosed. Since which we have made Entrance upon the United Trade. But both Companyes having so large Estates abroad, and considering the War and Scarcity of Bullion here, we have not thought fit to export largely this year, tho' hereafter we intend to drive the Trade to the full; And therefore this season we have freighted for the Bay onely the *Dutchess*, and for the Coast and Bay the *Tavistock*, and they chiefly to bring home Salt-petre for the service of the Government, &^{c}., *viz^{t}*., The *Dutchess* let for four hundred and twenty tons, but to bring home four hundred and seventy tons, to be half loaden with it, and the *Tavistock* to bring home six hundred tons, if so much be procurable and 200 tons in other goods, and we have agreed the frieight accordingly: *viz^{t}*., for the *Dutchess* thirty Pounds per Ton for the Bale Goods, and twenty-two Pounds per Ton for the Petre above the Ships Kintlage, and the *Tavistock* to have twenty-six Pounds per ton round.

2. This goes by the *Tavistock*, and being now upon a——Establishment, it will be expected that we give particular——

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it happens, that your Votes are equally divided, The——be determined by Lot, as we by our Charter are directed in such——.

3. Particularly we direct that all contracts for——and sold be made in Councill, and not privately, or in any other——and that the same be duly entred in your Consultation Bookes——the Accompts of Cash be once a month at least read, past and signed——That all things be duly entred in the Bookes, and that they be——up from time to time, so as not to be a week behind hand unposted upon any pretence whatever, and if any one is dilatory or negligent in——com̃itted to him, or sick, that the rest take care however to see——that so all things may be transacted according to our direction.

4. We expect from you, and doubt not but you will be faithfull in all respects to the interest of the New United Trade, And as we——have any of the affairs of the Old or New Company be prejudiced——by the United Trade, so you are to have an especiall regard——United Stock does not suffer from any demands on either Company——hope you will discharge yourselves with care and fidelity to both.

5. Our Letters directed to you, we order now to be————which may be immediately Summoned for that purpose————you are in all things carefully to observe such Orders, Rules, and————as are now, or shall hereafter from time to time be transmitted to————the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Managers, And also to take care that all others in their severall doe observe them to the same, And in the Management of all our affairs——Government and disposition of all our Merchants, Factors, and——matters, Civil and Military under your care, you are to————and act impartially according to our directions, without————cther respect, on account of any private or particular————advices from any whomsoever.

6. We doubt not but on receipt of our————————————

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for the English Company trading to the East Indies, in Trust for their Trade, The Lawyers having been of Opinion, that according to the Act of Parliament, the Trade be driven in that Name, as you will see more at———in the Deed of Union, herewith sent you, and take Speciall care that————Effects and Accompts of each Company, be Kept entirely apart, that————.

7. You are to hold Consultations once a Week at least, and oftner as origin of leanl our Affairs shall require, and to take care that the Secretary do duly and truly enter all things in the Booke of Consultations, and that the same be signed by the Councill, a copy whereof is every year to be transmitted to us.

8. We have loaden in this Ship *Tavistock* for the Fort one hundred and fourteen Bales of Cloth, and would have you by all means Study to promote the vend of our Wollen and other Manufactury, as much as possible, we being obliged, as you will see by the Charter, to export yearly———tenth part in the Product and Manufacture of England, wherefore advise us yearly, what quantityes and sorts of Goods we shall send, and tho'———be more trouble to us here, in purchasing them then Bullion, and————to you in putting them off, yet we would not omit sending them, although they should produce no more than Bullion, because of the advantage which the expence of our own Manufacture brings to this Nation, Besides the Cloth, we send you Gold and Silver, the whole as per the enclosed Bill of Lading and Invoice, amount to £ 31,250-19-11, of which we would have you send down to the Bay, by the first opportunity, the value of ten thousand Pounds in Silver, and if you cannot get so much Silver, make it up in Gold, and consign the same to Mr. Nath. Halsey, Mr. Robert Hedges, Mr. Jonathan White, Mr. Jonathan Winder, Mr. Ralph Sheldon, Mr. Robert Nightingall, Mr. John Russell, and Mr. Benjamin Boucher, whom we have for the present establisht of the Councill, for the management of our affairs there, and have ordered them to send you yearly————quantity of Salt

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now written them, and ordered them, to give us an account from time time what they want, and to send Duplicates to you to be transmitted us by all opportunityes, and in the meantime we would have you furnish them with what you find necessary, and particularly with a Sloop or two of about thirty tons, if they are not already supplied therewith.

9. Our intention is to have a Ship go once a year from the Coast to Bencoolen, with goods proper for that place, as also with Salt-petre and Red wood, and thence to load for England, But of this more hereafter.

10. We do not judge it for our advantage to have any Pepper loaden home from the Coast or Bay, expecting to have sufficient quantities from Bencoolen and Borneo, and therefore we direct, that you send us none of that commodity.

11. We send you by this Ship such Stores as we judge you may want, according to the particulars enclosed, and you must advise us what further is necessary, and take care to use all manner of good husbandry that our charge may not swallow up our Profit, we are also endeavouring to get some Soldiers to send you. You have herewith a Memoriall of the Investment we design to have made this year, and we must desire you to consult very well together, how to put our Business into the best method that is possible, for the purchasing good and cheap Goods, not onely this season, but in all time to come, for now that there will be, but one Buyer for England, there is no doubt, but you

may bring the People to take the former prices at which Goods were sold, before the Contest between the two Companys, and to see that every thing be very good in its kind, and in order to make your endeavours therein more effectuall, we have found it necessary to restrain the Commanders and Officers to particular Commodities, which will not interfere with our generall Trade, according to the printed Indulgence herewith sent you, And you are not to fail to give us an accompt if you find any transgression thereof in any point.

12. Advise us your thoughts particularly about the best manner of disposition of Europe Goods, and of contracting for, or providing the Indian goods ————————————England, that if any abuse be in either, or that ————————————may be introduced for one or the other————————

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opportunityes and write us your Observations thereon, and particularly we recommend to you the buying in of Goods in the best seasons————great means to carry on the Trade to our most advantage.

13. Keep us advised likewise of all matters relating to Trade in———both of our own and foreign Nations, which fall under your cognizance or observation that we may thereby as near as we can compute the quantityes and qualities of the severall sorts of Goods yearly brought into Europe not omitting to inform us of all things——and wherein you judge our interest may be most promoted.

14. We hope the next Letters from you will bring us an account of your being freed from the insults of the Moors, and that the Companies being United, will tend to the strengthening the English Interest in the Mogull's Country, so as not to fear anything from their Power or the subtle contrivances of any other Nation, in order to which we have obtained from Her Majesty the grant of some Men of Warr that will be ready to sail with our Suratt Ships next month.

15. We have given liberty to severall to settle as free Merchants at the Fort under certain Regulations, copy of which we intend you by this Ship, in whom they will take their passage.

16. You are to take care to get in, and preserve the Estates of such as dye in our Service within the precincts of your Presidency, and any dye intestate you are to take charge of their estates, keeping an exact account thereof in the Company's Books, and transmit an Inventory and an account of the same to us to be delivered to the Intestate's Relations, and send home with the very first an account of the produce thereof when paid into our Cash that we may speedily make it good to their relations that no complaint may be made for want thereof.

17. All possible care is to be taken to prevent any men leaving our Ships or entering into the Service of any Prince in those Countreys, in regard when they are once entered it is difficult for them to gett off, and thereby they become lost as to the Nation.

18. When you shall make any contract for any goods (which is alwayes to be done in Councill) the following Rules are to be observed:

First that two pieces be taken for musters of every sort of goods contracted for and———the same be sealed with————Seal, and lett one

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that all our Cloth may be bought and Invoiced to us by the number of threads tho' troublesome.

Secondly, that when the Callicoes that are brought into the Company's Warehouses are to be passed, according to Contract and———musters there be at least two of the Councill present whereof the Warehousekeeper to be one, to see that they be according to Samples, and that under their hands a Return be made to the Bookkeeper, for his justification in entering the same, and if the Goods do not come up to the muster you are to refuse them unless you can have a proportionable abatement which you must mention in the Invoices, by that means to do us justice and discourage them from attempting to impose upon you.

Thirdly, you are also to take care that our Callicoes and all other goods be carefully packed, and particularly that all in a Bale be of one sort and as near of a goodness as is possible, and that he that packs them puts in a Ticket with his name subscribed.

19. You are to pay all sallaryes in India valuing the pagotha at nine Shillings, unless to such as 'desire the same, or any part in England for which you may give Bills on the Company.

20. If any should offer to pay you any money in India, you may receive it and draw Bills on the Court of Managers for the same at Shillings a Pagotha.

21. We possitively enjoyn you that none of our Servants trade with, or make use of any of the Company's money or Goods on any account whatsoever but only for account of the Company.

22. We have freighted the *Northumberland,* 250 tons, Cap^{tn} Sam^{l} Hide, Commander, with a Cargo of about 16,000£ for Chusan in China, and thence to the Bay, and the *Sidney,* 450 tons, Cap^{tn} Jno. Cradock, Commander, with a Cargo of about 20,000£ for Canton, and thence to return to you, with Gold, Copper, Tootenage, and the other commodities proper for your market, The Supra Cargos who goe upon the said Ship *Sydney* are M$^{r.}$ Charles Douglas, M$^{r.}$ Lewis Shirley and M$^{r.}$ John Brodrepp, an Abstract of whose Covenants and Instructions go enclosed, whereby you will be enabled to examine their negotiations and see——————complyed with their said Covenants—————————————————————also deliver you copy of the Ships——————————————————————

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in Saltpetre, nor more goods in the whole then 436 to a half the Petre we have ordered our Council in the Bay to provide and send up to you, so write to them to send it up in time, and we would have you get the rest of her loading in readiness against she arrives to the end she may be dispatcht home that Season, and thereby save us the demorrage which we must otherwise pay, if detained in the Country.

23. You are upon her arrivall to examine and advise us whether the Ship has brought her full Charterparty Tonnage and the Supra Cargo's, Commander, &$^{c.}$ no more than is allowed them, and according to the Indulgence granted by us, or wherein there have been deficiencies or transgression on account of any of them; if any of the Supra Cargos are willing to pay in the money arising on their Commission——————private adventures or any part thereof into our Cash you may give them Bills of Exchange for the value at nine Shillings a Pagotha payable here, with an advance of thirty per cent. sixty dayes after the arrival of such of our Ships in the River of Thames as by a Declaration in writing deliver you, they desire to run the Risc on.

24. We have given liberty to M$^{r.}$ Robert Wright Sovin the present Lord Keeper, to take his passage in the said Sidney Ship, and to return to Fort St. George, and there reside as a free Merchant, and have allowed him to carry an adventure not exceeding two thousand Pounds for his own account to be returned from China in Gold, for which he is to pay you upon it ————————— return five per cent.

25. We hereby give our Servants abroad and all free Merchants and Inhabitants allowance to Trade in the Country thereby to encourage the honest endeavours of all such who do live under our protection, Wherefore we recommend to you and all in Authority under you on the Coast of Coromandell, that you will give encouragment to all our Factors and Servants as well as free Merchants, and all other the Inhabitants————————improve their private——————————————————————allowed by us whether——————————————————————

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in any manner of way, and we do require you to advise————from time to time of the behaviour of all our Servants that we may be the better able to distinguish the diligent, active————honest, from the slothfull and negligent, in order to regard them accordingly: This our order for Liberty of Trade we require you to publish, and that it be equall to all upon paying the usuall Customs settled to be paid us and no other without any preference or preemption of Bullion or any other Commodity whatsoever by any person or persons whatsoever.

26. We understand that upwards of twenty years ago the trade of Pegu was diverted from Metchlepatam to the Fort by the oppressions the Merchants lay under from the Moore's Government and the ease they promised themselves at the Fort by the agreement with the Old Company as their Agent which seems most adapted to that trade; it being improper to expose Rubyes and other Jewels to sight upon collecting the Custom, least designing People make advantage thereof from the quantity or otherwise to the prejudice of their sale, which the receiving a broakage instead of a Custom as we understand it is at present has and will effectually prevent, we being apprehensive the contrary may give the farmers liberty or a temptation to oppress the importers to the destruction of such a considerable branch of the trade of that place.

27. We apprehend that the dealing with the Joynt Stock Merchants only is not so proper for our purpose and advantage as dealing with all sorts of People that will sell goods to you, the trusting our money being not without hazard, besides that they are able to impose upon you in the price of Commodities they undertake to provide, wherefore we would not have you deliver————others any of our money, but buy goods of————————that will bring them to you for your————————————reasonable terms. This method you——————————————————————————
but a small——————————————————————————

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our main design being to encourage all mankind to bring Goods to you, that you may send out the Cheapest Sellers.

28. We find that in case of any accident the stopping of your————is of great damage to the poorer sort, we have been told that the planting of Timber at a due distance so as it be clear from sheltering an Enemy may be usefull, but of this you are best judges, only this we would have duly regarded that you alwayes have a full supply of fuel to prevent the inconvenience that may attend the stop of it upon any dispute with the Natives or Governours.

29. If eitheir Company have any goods to load for their separate accounts and have no Ship of their own on the Coast, we direct you to permitt them to load the same aboard this Ship or so much thereof as can be done without prejudice to the United Trade, and to lett them have Bills of loading on the terms of the Charterparty.

30. We come now to acquaint you that we have unanimously chosen you Thomas Pitt, Esq., to be President and Governour of Fort St. George, and Stationed and settled the Councils at Fort St. George, St. Davids on the Manner following, *viz*:—

At Fort St. George.

Thomas Pitt, Esq., President and Governour of Fort St. George, at the salary of two hundred Pounds a year, and one hundred Pounds gratuity.

Mr. Gabriel Roberts, second of Council, at one hundred Pounds a year salary, and one hundred Pounds a year gratuity.

Mr. Francis Ellis, third of Council, at the salary of seventy Pounds per annum and thirty Pounds a year gratuity.

Mr. Wm. Frazier, fourth of Council, at the salary of fifty Pounds per annum.

Mr. Thomas Wright, fifth of Council, at the salary of forty Pounds per annum.

Mr. Thomas Marshall, sixth of Council, at the salary of forty Pounds per annum, and Judge Advocate, at the salary of one hundred Pounds a year.

Mr. Daniel Dubois, seventh of Council, at the salary of forty Pounds per annum.

At Fort St. Davids.

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Mr. Mathew Empson, Second, at the salary of fifty Pounds per annum.

Mr. Edmd. Mountague, Third, at the salary of forty Pounds per annum.

Mr. Vicessumons Griffith, Fourth, at the salary of forty Pounds per annum.

Mr. Ralph Ingram, Fifth, at the salary of forty Pounds per annum.

Mr. John Berlue, Sixth, at the salary of forty Pounds per annum.

Mr. Trevor Games, Seventh, at the salary of forty Pounds per annum.

And that the Councils of each place from time to time consists of seven persons, and be supplyed by the next in Station at each place.

31. We have in respect to Mr. John Pitt, as he was President for the New Company, and has been a Publick Minister, constituted him Governour of Fort St. Davids and have left and do hereby leave to him and the Council there or the Majority of them according to the method before prescribed to have the entire Government of that place and all the Dependencyes thereon, to appoint the severall Persons of Council their particular employments, and to make use of such of the Old Companye's Servants there, and such of the New Company now with him at Metchlepatam, and to put them in such Stations as he and the Council find them most capable and deserving of, taking care to employ an equall number of each.

32. But in regard we shall alwayes make our Consignments to Fort St. George, and that all our Settlements on the Coast are Subordinate thereto. We would have Mr. Pitt and your Council at Fort St. Davids under the Direction of the President and Council at Madras as to Investments. We could not at this distance judge what part of our Cargo's should be apportioned to each place, and therefore have not determined any thing thereon leaving that to the President and Council at the Fort St. George who are on the Place to Invest such a Part at Madrass and send down such a Part to St. Davids as they think most convenient for our Interest. That the Investments be good in their kind as cheap bought as may be and as expeditiously furnished as possible to give our Ships an early dispatch for Europe ———————— Summer ———————— and ease us of ————————————————

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other matters whatsoever. We will during Mr. John Pitt's continuance there have it independent for the reasons abovesaid, and afterwards it is to return to the subordination to Fort St George according to the ancient and usuall custom and method practiced by the Old Company.

34. In case of President Thomas Pitt's death, which God forbid, or that his private affairs call him home, we hereby appoint Mr. John Pitt to succeed him.

35. All other our Factorys and Settlements on the Coast, we hereby order to be wholly Subordinate to Fort St George.

36. We have likewise agreed that in regard the New Company's Writers were entertained here under Covenants at twenty Pounds a year sallary, they

shall have that sallary allowed them to the expiration of their Covenanted time for such of them as are employed on the service of the United Company, after which we resolve that all persons entertained on account of the United Trade be allowed only——sallarys given by the Old Company in the severall Stations wherein they are employed.

37. We hereby direct that Mr. Robert Raworth be admitted to the Station and sallary of a Merchant, and that he be removed to Fort St George, there to be employed in such matters as the President and Council think fitt, and that Mr Thomas Cooke be continued at the Fort in our Service who was sent out the last year a Writer on the Colchester.

38. We have as beforementioned elected only our two Councils and left the employment of all persons at Fort St Davids and the places depending thereon to the New Governour and Council there. We hereby also direct that you our President and Council at the Fort appoint each of the Council his particular business and employment and elect and employ such other of the Servants of the Old & New Company at Fort St George and elsewhere

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Companye's Servants are but few in comparison of the Old, and that Mr. John Pitts has liberty to take with him as many from Metchlepatam to Fort St Davids as he had occasion, for we desire there may be a provision made for the rest either at the Fort or other the Factoryes on the Coast, and for such of them as you do employ we would have them stationed according to their entertainments and standings in India equall with those of the Old Company, respect being had on both sides to the honesty, ability and diligence of the Persons.

39. We had thoughts of withdrawing Vizagapatam, Madapollam and both Companyes Factoryes at Metchlepatam and all other our Settlements on the Coast except Fort St George and St Davids or at least keeping only a Factor or two and a Writer or two at each place, but we have not fully determined anything therein at present, in the mean time do you give us your thoughts thereupon, and what is in your opinion best to be done therein so as to gett us full Investments and retrench our charge as far as you are able. The Ministers and Surgeon at the Fort St George are to continue there, and also we hereby order that Mr. John Lauden, Minister at Metchlepatam, and Mr. Michael Gray, Surgeon, remove with Mr. John Pitt to Fort St Davids, also Richard Cox, the Trumpeter and Soldiers, if Mr. Pitt think fitt.

40. You are also to take notice that the additional Sallarys to Mr. Pitt, the Governor of Fort St Davids, To Mr. Roberts and Mr. Ellis as Second and Third of Fort St George, are not to be continued to any others that may succeed in those Stations, we being willing for the satisfaction of both Companyes to fix them, so now for the persons and not the Stations sake.

41. ————————————————

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their passage about the Cape and thereby be necessitated to put back for the said Island Mauritius. This we take to be of great moment, and therefore you are to omit no endeavours to comply with this our order.

42. My Lady Oglethorp sends to her Sonne, Mr. Theophilus Oglethorp, at the Fort a small Chest, containing two hundred Pounds value in ps of $\frac{8}{8}$ marked T. O. No. 1, and another Chest marked T. O. No. 2 conta necessaryes. The Receipts for them are not yet come back from the *Tavistock*, and for fear they should not time enough to enclose in the Packett, we send this notice that the President may give order to receive them from the Ship and deliver them as designed.

43. We expect that all whom we have chosen or that shall be employed in our Service do give the usuall security it is already done for Mr. Tho. Pitt, Mr. John Pitt, and Mr. Roberts, and you are to require the rest to write over to England to provide Security to be entered into here for them.

LONDON,
The 9th March 1702.

We are,
Your loving friends,

CHARLES DU BOIS,
THEOD JANSSEN,
RT ACTON,
Name Illegible,
NATH. GOULD,
HENRY FURNESE,
Name Illegible,
JAMES CRAGGS.

GEO. DODINGTON,
JOHN FLEET,
THOS. COOKE,
JONATHAN ANDREWS,
EDW HARRISON,
Name Illegible,
R. GOUGH,
GILBERT HEATHORTS,
NATH. HERNE,
Name Illegible,
Name Illegible,
Name Illegible,
SAM. DASHWOOD,
JOS. MARTIN,
THOS. VERNON,

Public Despatches from England from 28th January 1708 to 17th April 1708.

OUR COUNCIL IN THE BAY OF BENGALL—

1. The season of the year is so far spent that we have thought proper to direct the Commanders of our Ships *Sommers Litchfield* and *Stretham* to sail for Bengall in case they can't reach Madrass whereto they are consigned by the 15th day of September next, and if so they are to follow your orders for delivering you any Bullion or goods of ours aboard them, and to take in such Goods, Merchandize, and Stores as you shall Lade on them for Fort St George, wherefore if they should come to you first, we direct that you take out of those three Ships eighty-five thousand Pounds value of the Bullion on Board, the residue of their Treasure and Goods being one hundred thousand pounds value must be sent up to Madras either in all three ships on in such of them as you see fitt, in case you should employ one or more of them in the Bay, hasten the Ships you design for the Fort up thither and in them such Bay Goods as are ready, and what Saltpetre shall be wanted at the Fort, and the Stores wrote for together with the goods and Bullion on board all three Ships designed for Madras to the end that our President and Councill there may have the said Treasure and Goods to be making there Investments with all, and the rest as soon after as you can, with what Bales you can provide according to the directions in the beginning of our larger letter of the 7th instant.

2. If by the lateness of the Ships arrivall you can't be able to provide goods to dispatch them away for Sommer Ships and a good freight presents for Persia or elsewhere, let out such Tonnage as can't be loaden for England on freight that none of our Ships may ly on demorage a dead charge to us. We have sent the like orders to the Fort, and ordered them to send you an account if they can hire out any of the said Tonnage, this order we give as being apprehensive you may be burdened with the Tonnage, considering the short time you are like to have to fill it up for England the ensuing season in case they should be detained here or have a long passage out.

3. Notwithstanding what is wrote in our aforementioned Letter do you receive into our Cash the Effects of Captn Harrington deceased, and advise us what the same is, it being the desire of the widow and also of the late Captn Hide's widow who pretends to some concern therein.

4. We have an account by the last Irish Post that the *Panther* and the *Catherine* from Benjar and the *Europe* and from Bombay arrived the 6th Instant at Galloway, they parted company some days before with the *Oley* Frigott from China the *Pheenix* and *Jane* from Benjar, and the *Horshane* separate Stock Ship which we hope to hear by next Post are also in Port. By letters from these Ships we understand that the Settlement at Benjar was destroyed by the Natives, and our Ships *Blenheim* and *Carleton* were returned to Batavia, whereupon we have sent the *Recovery* to the Bay which was designed for Benjar what Stores she has on board you will see by her Invoice, such part of them as are proper for you make up, of the rest send to Madrass, The Tonnage of this Ship is more than we intended you, and we can't now send her a larger Stock, she being at Spithead, we hope however you will do with her as well as you can, either in employing her on freight or returning her to Europe the next season.

5. What Soldiers she brings designed for Benjar do you keep one-third of them, and send two-thirds up to Madrass.

6. We earnestly recommend it to your care to dispatch away as many of our Ships as you can from time to time in December and January, and none after the middle of February, or at furthest none after the end of that month, because they will run an extreame hazard of looseing their passage and thereby come Winter Ships which we would avoid all we can, for many reasons we could tell you Mauritius is now deserted by the Dutch, so that if they should go thither they have no defence and are likely to be exposed to an Enemy.

7. If you can't dispatch our latest Ships in all February keep them till October following in the Country; employ them on Voyages if you can that they may be earning something, if not, let them ly in Port and come home with the Dutch from the Cape, unless certain advice of a Peace, in which case they may make the best of their way for England, or unless they have other orders from our Secret Committee which they must then follow: We are—

London, 17th April 1708. Your loving friends,

JOHN FLEET,
GILBERT HEATHCOTE,
STEP^{N} PENDARVES,
SAM^{L} SHEPHEARD,
NATH. GOULD,
GREGORY PAGE,
ARTHUR MOORE.

JAMES BULL,
ED^{MD} HARRISON,
JAMES BATEMAN,
JON^{A} ANDREWS,
NATH. HERNE,
CHA^{S} PEERS,
HENRY LYELL,
JOSEPH MARTIN,

P. S.—The Court had not time to draw out and Sign a Letter to the Fort to the same purport with that to the Bay, of which the above is copy, and therefore this Letter is sent for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Councill of Fort St. George by—

THO^{S} WOOLLEY,
Secretary.

Exd.—P. K. B.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 676 F. D.—22-7-92—500.

Public Consultation, General No. 76.

Monday,
13th January 1745/6.

AT A CCMMITTEE, PRESENT:

NICHOLAS MORSE, ESQR., *Governour, President.*

WILLIAM MONSON.

THOMAS EYRE.

EDWARD HARRIS.

WILLIAM JOHNSON.

JOHN SAVAGE.

EDWARD FOWKE.

* * * * *

The President hereupon told the Board, that it had been mentioned from St. David and strongly rumoured in Town that some English Patamars from Anyengo had been stopped and detained by the French at Caracal, but that he thought it not proper to take any notice of the report without further confirmation which if true, he judged it could not long want, nor was he out in his conjecture, for with the above letter from Anyengo he received one from Monsr. Dupleix confessing that the Chief of Caracal had taken that step without his knowledge or approval, expressing his dislike of such a practice and assuring him of his having reproved the said chief for it, and that he had ordered the discharge of the peons and the letters (which were forwarded by Monsr. Dupleix to the President) to be sent unopened. Though such a proceeding begun by the French would sufficiently warrant our following the example yet as Monsr. Dupleix has thought proper to apologise for it in such a manner, we think we ought to suspend any particular resentment in this instance.

* * * * *

Signed . . NICHOLAS MORSE.
WILLIAM MONSON.
THOMAS EYRE.
EDWARD HARRIS.
WILLIAM JOHNSON.
JOHN SAVAGE.
EDWARD FOWKE.

Monday,
The 27th January 1745/6.

At a Consultation, Present:

Nicholas Morse, Esqr., *Governor, President.*
William Monson.
Thomas Eyre.
Edward Harris.
William Johnson.
John Savage.
Edward Fowke.

* * * * * *

29th.—Early this morning arrived his Majesty's Ships *Meedway* of 60 guns commanded by Captain Edward Peyton and *Lively* of 20 guns by Captain Henry Roswell from Sea, bringing in with them the expedition prize, a French privateer of 14 guns and 58 men.

Mr. Boddam sent off with the President's compliments to Captain Peyton attended him on Shore. This forenoon sailed his Majesty's Ships *Meedway* and *Lively* for the Southward, having under their Convoy the *Fanny* Sloop, John Robinson with the five bales for the *Admiral Vernon* and a general letter dated yesterday on the subject of one the President received that morning from Mr. Hinde dated the 27th advising of the French marching a force from Pondicherry to the edge of the Fort St. David's Bounds.

* * * *

Signed
NICHOLAS MORSE.
WILLIAM MONSON.
THOMAS EYRE.
EDWARD HARRIS.
WILLIAM JOHNSON.
JOHN SAVAGE.
EDWARD FOWKE.

Monday,
the 10th Febry. 1745/6.

At a Consultation, Present:

Nicholas Morse, Esqrs., *Governor, President.*
William Monson.
Thomas Eyre.
Edward Harris.
William Johnson.
John Savage.
Edward Fowke.

Last Consultation read and signed.

The President then delivered the Secretary to read several letters addressed to him of the following purport, *viz.*:—

A letter from Captain John Blake of the *Lincoln* dated Fort St. David the 6 instant acquainting the President that in his passage thither he had met with a Sloop under Moors colors, without a pass, which suspecting her to be French, he had taken and left with Mr Hinde, referring to an enclosed journal and an Examination of the Master for the grounds of his suspicion and conduct, and desiring that in case she should prove a prize she might be disposed of and her produce remitted to him through the Company's cash for account of the Owners and Companies of Ships *Lincoln* and *Edgebaston.*

A letter from Joseph Hendrick Calderman the Master of the said Sloop, dated Fort St. David the 7th Instant, giving an account of himself, the Sloops Owners, The intention of her voyage and of her being taken by the *Lincoln* and *Edgebaston* and by them carried to Fort St. David.

A translate of a letter of this day's date from Sied Kazy Cawn (a relation of Sujee Cawn, late Nabob of Muxidavad, who arrived a few weeks past from the Bay and has since resided in our Town) giving the President an account of his having hired the Sloop at Calcutta to bring up his family and their Provisions, and offering to pay double the value of the Sloop and her cargo if it should appear that either of them belonged in any wise to the French.

The copy of the examination and Journal referred to in Captain Blake's letter being also read, the President proposed to the Board to consider of the consequences that such an affair as this might draw after it, and how far or in what manner it may become us to act in, or take notice of it, after what our Honorable Masters have been pleased to tell us in their 59th paragraph of the 21st March 1743. In debating this point the Board could not without concern reflect on the inconveniences and difficulties the Honorable Company's affairs and their Servants abroad may sooner or later be drawn into by prizes taken in India by virtue of letters of Marque, though its hoped the President having an opportunity of discoursing Sied Kazy Cawn in person on the present instance may prevent any ill effects from it, but as to the Question it was unanimously agreed that the abovementioned paragraph absolutely disqualifies us for judging of the legality of prizes, and consequently restrains us from taking any cognizance of this matter.

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NICHOLAS MORSE.

WILLIAM MONSON.

THOMAS EYRE.

EDWARD HARRIS.

WILLIAM JOHNSON.

JOHN SAVAGE.

EDWARD FOWKE.

To—The Honorable Nicholas Morse, Esqre., President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,—In my letter to Fort St. David I met a Sloop under Moor's Colours without any pass, and I have several reasons to imagine her French and bound to Pondicherry, I thought it my duty to carry her into port for more satisfactory account than they could give. I shall not trouble you with a repetition in this, as I forward to you copy of their examination as also his journal &cea papers by which its plain they might have been at Fort St. George had they been bound there, as I apprehended she might be an advice boat looking out for a fleet, so I stopt to advise with the commodore, who with all the Captains of the Men of War agree, her being without a pass authorizes me to make a prize of her, and if she had fell in their hands would have sold her for such, or if delivered to them would do so now. But as I would have every thing I do, agreeable to the intention and meaning of my Employers, so I have left her with Mr Hinde till he receives advice from you, and in case your Honor shall find her a prize, I leave it to you to dispose of her, for the Owners and Ships Companies of *Lincoln* and *Edgebaston*, and to remit me the produce in the Company's Cash per next Shipping, but if it appears she is not so, and that we have not sufficient matter to make prize of her, be pleased to act as you please relating thereto either as to discharge her, or order her to your Port.

I am, Honorable Sir,

Fort St. David,
Your honor's most obedt. & humble Servant.
6th *February 1745/6.*
JOHN BLAKE.

Examination of the Master and Passengers of a Sloop which met under Moors Colours, *Vizt.*, Red in the latitude of $\overset{\text{D.}}{12}$ $\overset{\text{M.}}{17}$ N. Tuesday Morning 4th February 1745/6. *Allumpama* than in sight a little to the Southward of us.

The *Dauphin*, Joseph Hendrick Calderman, Master. A Mustee says he is an Inhabitant of Madras came from Ingelle Bengal, parted from thence the 29th Janry N. S. bound for Madras loaded with rice and seed for oil and two bales contents unknown and no other cargoe on board, that the Sloop belongs to Meeteer, a Gentu at Bengal, Black Jemedar of Calcutta, that she is freighted by a Moorman, one who went to Bengal from Madras upon *Captain Rannie* and is returned to Madras upon some other ship. He has aboard belonging to the Vessel a Syrang, a cook and eleven Lascars, also a Gentu and his Servant, who he says has charge of the cargoe, that the Master signed no bills of lading and has none aboard. He also declares he has no Passport of any sort, but that he carries red colours as a Moor's Vessel, he has aboard one Luke Shields a German Passenger bound to Madras and who says is a Serjeant in the English Service in Captain Holcombe's Company at Bengal, and is going to fetch his wife and family from thence. The Master says that at five o'clock yesterday morning he fell in with the land, that he has also on board passengers, Women, a Moor, the wife of the Moor before mentioned with her two Moor Women servants, also two Slave girls Christian Portuguese belonging to the aforesaid Master, that on sending our boat on board to examine her, he told the Officer he had no Europeans on board nor any papers, but found one *Vizt.* Shields before mentioned concealed in the hold who declared himself an Englishman, and on being asked why he concealed himself, he said the Master desired him so to do, they say when they saw us they took us to be an English Man of War which he says was about 3 o'clook in the morning when hailed him, he said he belonged to Mr. Jackson of Bengal. He tells us the *Meedway's* prize Captain Griffin, Captain Raymond and a Duch ship sailed together when he did but they parted with him when under sail of Ingellee. One of them carried a Pendant. He says the reason of his being so much out of way to the Southward of his Port was owing to Westerly Winds but on examining his journal find the contrary *Vizt.* Winds at E. N. E. and N. E. when to the Northward and in the Latitude of Madras, and no Westerly Winds, the whole time fine weather and smooth water, and might have been at Madras had he been bound there. In his journal find he calls her the *Nancy*, but as before observed reported her name the *Dauphin* and since he came ashore here changes it to the *Nancy* when I mentioned his journal calling he so. The Commodore says they had advice of two sloops setting out from Bengal with provisions.

To—The Honorable Nicholas Morse, Esqre.

Honorable Sir,—I beg leave to inform your honor that I have been to Bengal lately from Madras on a Brigg (owner) Mewrjermandee, and after my arrival there, one Omichund sent for me and asked if I would carry the Sloop called *Nancy* to Madras, and I asked Omichund who the vessel belonged to, who told me it belonged to Govinda Ramittree, Jemedar of Calcutta and that a Mooman who is now at Madras freighted the Vessel to carry his family down to him, after which one Mr. Jackson there and Govinda Ramittree sent for me and told me that I might go with all safety, accordingly I sailed from thence, and in my way to Madras I met with a gale of wind that damaged my Mast and sails so that I was obliged to make land as fast as I could, and I arrived to the Northward of Sadras at 4 in the morning where I met the two India men the *Lincoln* and *Edgebaston* which took me and brought me here. I therefore beg your honor will take an information of this and do as Your Honor will think proper.

I am, Honorable Sir,

Fort St. David, Your honors Most obed^t humble Servant.

7^th February 1745/6. (Sd.) JOSEPH HENDRICK CALDERMAN.

Translate of a letter from Sied Kazy Cawn in the Black Town to the Honorable Nicholas Morse, Esq^re President and Governour, Fort St. George, dated 10^th February 1745/6.

When I was in Calcutta I freighted a Sloop (by the means of Omichund) of one Govinda Ramittree Gomastah of Mr. Jackson Jemedar of Calcutta, and exported some rice upon her, some of my people also embarked upon her for Chinapatam where she was bound. I was lately informed that she the said Sloop was taken by one of the English Ships and carried to Tevenepatan, I must therefore write this to assure you that the said sloop her Cargoe doth not any ways belong to the French or any others the Enemies of the English Nation. The truth of this you will be informed of in Calcutta if you are pleased to enquire there, and if proof be made that she or her Cargoe belongs to the French or any others, enemies of the English Nation I shall forfeit the double value of the said Sloop. I must acquaint you that I was and am ignorant whether he is a Frenchman but I know him to be a Farangy (or a European) and as the Sloop and cargoe doth not any ways belong to the French, it is very improper to seize or lay any claims upon her under pretence of her Noquedah's being of a different Nation, I therefere desire your Honour &^ca will be so kind to send for the said sloop with her cargoe and men to this place as soon as possible, and if you cannot confide in my word then this letter will serve you in the room of an obligation, dated in the 9th Moon Saphar in the year of the reign of his most Imperial Majesty Mahomed Shaw twenty seven.

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Monday,
The 17th March 1745/6.

At a Consultation, Present:

Nicholas Morse, Esq^re *Governor, President.*
William Monson.
Thomas Eyre.
Edward Harris.
William Johnson.
John Savage.
Edward Fowke.

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The President acquaints the Board he has received information from Aroct that the Governor of Pondicherry had lately wrote a letter to the

Nabob to advise him that the English were making preparations at Fort St. David to attack Pondicherry by land as Mr. Barnett was to do by Sea, that it appeared to him the French had some secret view in this to answer some purpose of theirs hereafter, the better therefore to satisfy the Nabob and to prevent this design taking effect he purposes to address himself to the Nabob on the affair agreeable to a letter now read which is approved of and ordered to be entered hereafter.

N. MORSE.

W. MONSON.

T. EYRE.

E. HARRIS.

W. JOHNSON.

J. SAVAGE.

E. FOWKE.

To—ANAWARDEEN CAWN BAHAUDER, Nobob of Arcot.

Your Excellency will be so good to allow me a pardon for giving you this trouble, but having been informed that the Governor of Pondicherry has lately represented to Your Excellency that the English at Fort St. David had a design to attack the Fort of Pondichery by land which I suppose is done at this time to serve some purpose of theirs or to make us appear to you in a false light, as persons that are not inclined to show a regard to your commands, when at the same time it will appear we have paid all deference to them, Your Excellency must know this from Mahophojee Cawn, and therefore want no further evidence that the French some short time past actually marched with a body of Forces and large guns with other implements of war to the edge of the Fort St. David Bounds, but on the Kings ships appearing off their Port, they thought fit to call in their Troops being also persuaded thereto by Mahophojee Cawn who also wrote to the Deputy Governor of Fort St. David not to resent this insult of the French. Your Excellency will find his desires were complied with, and the Governor of Pondicherry must be left to answer for a conduct in express disobedience to your Commands. The English have a just sense of the performance of their promises, and having given them to Your Excellency that they would not become the first Agressors they could not offer to tirfle with so great a person as Your Excellency, and therefore they hope Your Excellency will suffer no insinuations of our enemies to have any weight with you but that the purity of our intentions will be distinguished in a favorable manner, and that your regard for us will be still preserved which will be always esteemed with grateful acknowledgements. May God Almighty long preserve Your Excellency for the benefit of your friends and country.

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Monday.
the 21st April 1746.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

NICHOLAS MORSE, ESr., *Governor, President.*

WILLIAM MONSON.

THOMAS EYRE.

EDWARD HARRIS.

JOHN SAVAGE.

EDWARD FOWKE.

MR. JOHNSON, sick.

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N. 82. Translate of a letter from the Governor and Council of Tranquebar dated the 18th April last N. S. giving an account of Mr Barnett's driving ashore and taking possession of the French ship in their road, referring to three inclosed papers under N° 1, 2 and 3, the first being a copy of Mr. Barnett's letter to the Governor of Tranquebar on the occasion dated the 30th March O. S. from on board the *Harwich*; N° 2 a copy of their protest delivered to Mr. Banett in the Danish Tongue; N°. 3 a copy of the same in the Dutch now read in its translate which together with N°. 1 are copied in our letters received after the abovementioned Translate N°. 82 for the inspection of our Honorable Masters to whom its agreed to transmit the originals by the first opportunity as well as in compliance with the request from Tranquebar in justice to Mr. Barnett.

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N. MORSE.
W. MONSON.
T. EYRE.
E. HARRIS.
T. SAVAGE.
E. FOWKE.

To—MR BONSACK, Governour of Tranquebar.

If I could have got your letter of the 12 N. S. translated sooner, you would have had my answer to it before now.

The Neutrality of your road I readily allow, never intended the least violation of it, and that it was not violated by my officers is fully proved by your wn confes ion. You own the French Ship fired two shots at the King's Frigate when she was going into your road and steering to anchor in such a manner as could give no room to suspect any design of attacking the French Ship, but those shots, you say were fired as a signal, a very extraordinary manner of making signals indeed, and I suppose the several volleys of small arms which she fired while the Frigate was anchoring were also Signals and not intended to do any harm. I am afraid Sir, it will appear that if you intended to maintain the Neutrality of your road, you did not take the proper method as the French Captain had put himself under your protection, and could be protected by nothing but my respect for the King of Denmark's Flag, you should have strictly enjoyed him to trust to your protection, and not fire unless he was actually attacked. You should I think have sent an officer to the Captain of the Frigate to enquire the reason of his coming into the road and told him not to anchor near that ship which was under your protection, and therefore you was obliged to protect her as far as you could. Had you taken this method the French Ship would not have fired and the Captain of the Frigate would have satisfied you that he had no orders to attack her, and was only directed to observe her motions. Thus, Sir, the Neutrality might have been preserved and all that has happened been prevented, but you took no such precautions. The French Ship fired at the Frigate as she was steering to anchor a stern of her, upon which the Frigate endeavoured to anchor alongside, but the anchor not falling clear off the side, she fell upon her quarter before she could let go her other anchor, and all this time the Frenchman continued firing volleys of small arms into the Frigate and one gun at least was fired at her from the Fort before she fired a single musket, and the moment the Frigate fired her first gun, you began to fire at her from all parts. The second Frigate was ordered to anchor without, seeing so smart a fire from the Fort on the first Frigate stood in to succour her, and soon after he had given his fire, yours and that of the French Ship ceased. The Frigates then let off till the insolence of the Frenchman in firing into a small unarmed boat obliged them to give another before they could take possession.

Upon the whole Sir, it must be plain to all impartial persons that the English broke not the Neutrality nor had any intention to break it The

French began the hostilities they broke the Neutrality and had you been really Neuter yourself, you would immediately have fired at the French ship not at the English who never fired a gun till called upon by the Law of Nature to do it in their own defence.

I did not write my letter of the 30th past till I was fully satisfied. I had reason to complain of your partiality, and the account sent me by the Captain and officers of the first Frigate has since been confirmed by two young Gentlemen of this Ship who were on board the Frigate by accident and no ways concerned in or accountable for what was done. They assured me the Frenchman was firing his musketry into the Frigate, one or two shot from the Fort passed between the Frigate's man and Mizen masts and this before she fired even one Musket. That some shot from the Frigate went on shore is very possible, but that it was not the direction or intention of the officers you may believe, as I have assured you they had my orders to make no return to your fire, but I will not go so far as to say that the seamen finding your shot coming thick among them may not have returned some. In short Sir, I continue to think that your partiality or neglecting to take proper precautions for preserving the Neutrality occasioned the French to break it, and therefore you alone are accountable for all that has happened, who instead of resenting properly the behaviour of the French Captain attempt to justifie it by poorly pretending that all the shot fired into the Frigate were not designed to offend, but only meant as signals, and then unjustly endeavouring to fix the breach of the Neutrality on the English though its evident they never intended to commit any hotilities in your road, and you may imagine that if I had been inclined to violent measures, I should have gone to work in another manner.

I am surprized you could think of laying claim to the ship as a Wreck. You say she was deserted by her Crew, was it because they were afraid of drowning her, did not the English drive them out of her and take possession immediately. The ship and all that was taken out of her, after she attacked the King's Frigates under your cannon without any sort of reason is absolutely the property of the Captors, and from you I expect a fair and full account of all that was carried on shore that Night, and that the whole as well as the ship be preserved as English property to be disposed of as I shall direct.

I am, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

(Sd.) CURTIS BARNETT.

LARNICK OF FORT
ST. DAVID;
6th April 1746 O. S.

Government of India Central Printing Office, No. 889 F. D.—25-8-32—500.

Thursday, the 8th January 1746-7.

At a Consultation, Present:

John Hinde, Esqr., *Deputy Governour.*

Edward Croke.

William Holt.

Charles Floyer.

Alexander Wynch.

Thomas Cooke, Junr.

Letter from Bombay.

The Deputy Governour acquaints the Board that He has received a Letter rom the President of Bombay, wherein He acknowledges the Receipt of What wrote them advising of the Loss of Madrass; And that he has wrote our Board by Way of Arcott, which is not yet come to hand, and that they have directed the Gentlemen at Suratt to remit us by bill on that place, forty thousand (40,000) Rupees, and that our Indents for Stores, &ca shall be complied with as far as they can spare from their own Garrison, but that the Supply cannot reach us till March or April which, We are sensible off. He further advises that they have wrote our Hon'ble Masters of the Loss of Madrass by way of Bussorah the 7th November.

* * * * * * *

General Letters read vizt. No. 1 from the President and Council of Bombay, expressing their Concern for the Loss of Madrass and advising of forty thousand (40,000) Rupees sent us by way of Surat and Arcott, also assuring us that they will not fail to comply with our Indents as far as is consistent with the Safety of their own Garrison, as soon as the Season of the year will sdmit.

* * * * * * *

EDW. CROKE.

CHARLES FLOYER.

W. HOLT.

A. WYNCH.

THOMAS COOKE, Junr.

Saturday, the 24th January 1746-7.

At a Consultation, Present:

John Hinde, Esqr., *Deputy Governour.*

Edward Croke.

William Holt.

Charles Floyer.

Alexander Wynch.

Thomas Cooke, Junr.

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Letter from Nabob Anaverdy Cawn.

The Deputy Governour represents to the Board that He has received a Letter from the old Nobab Anaverdy Cawn, importing his Expectation of some allowance from the Company towards defraying the great Expence He is at in the two Armies commanded by his two Sons that now lye at our Bound Hedge, as He says, purely for the Defence of this Settlement, He likewise sets forth that He has received continual messages or rather Demands on the same Account from Mohofoz Cawn & Mahomed Ally Cawn his Sons, with whom He has had an Interview and long discoursed on the subject, and upon the whole He represents to the Board that it is impossible to put them off longer without paying them something more than the small presents they have yet had, and that a farther delay may be attended with the Utmost ill Consequence to our Hon'ble Master's Affairs. As We have yet received no certain Advices nor indeed any at all from our Friends when We may expect to be succoured, and the Deputy Governour having represented to them in the strongest Terms, that it is not in our Power to advance any of the large Sums they so often talk off as Lacks of Pagodas and the like, and that under the unhappy Cloud our Master's Affairs at present are on this Coast, having lost our head Settlement with all the Money & valuable Effects, as likewise that this is a little place depriv'd of all its ancient and natural support, and provided with nothing but for its defence, and as these are also Times in which all Credit and Commerce is at a Stand; The most we have in our Power is a small Present to convince them of our Gratitude for their Assistance and as a Mark of our dutiful and respectful Behaviour towards them, and to assure them that our Hon'ble Masters will not be ungrateful when they shall receive any Solid & Material Marks of their Protection and friendly Assistance. Upon the Whole the Deputy Governour is advised by the Officers of the Durbar that in consideration of our present posture of Affairs for the sum of about six thousand (6,000) Pagodas they may be made easy for some Days by which time We hope our Ships & Supplys will arrive; In Consideration of all Which and that the Sum is but inconsiderable in comparison of any Risque of disobliging them, and thereby giving our most Industrious Enemies any Handle against us: Agreed that the above Sum of six thousand (6,000) Pagodas or thereabouts be given in Rupees, and that all proper Methods be taken to keep them in a good disposition towards us.

Present made him.

The Houses in Tevenepatam that were within 400 yards of the Fort haveing been pull'd down in Consequence of an Order of Consultation of the 17th November; The Inhabitants of whom haveing been very importunate to the Deputy Governour in regard to their sufferings on that Occasion, The same is now taken into Consideration, and as it appears they have been all contrary to the establish'd Rules given to be observed at the beginning of this Settlement, It is generally Agreed that they have no pretensions to any Restitution being made them for any Houses within that distance, but as our Military Officers still represent it to be very requisite for the Security of the Fort to level the Ground yet farther, In Case We may find it necessary to come to a Resolution of so doing, it is thought reasonable and hereby Agreed to allow the Owners of such Houses a proportionable recompence for the same.

Inhabitants of Tevenepatam to be recompenc'd for their Houses.

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EDW. CROKE.

CHARLES FLOYER.

W. HOLT.

A. WYNCH.

THOMAS COOKE, Junr.

Saturday, the 31st January 1746-7.

At a Consultation, Present:

John Hinde, Esqr., *Deputy Governour.*

Edward Croke.

William Holt.

Charles Floyer.

Alexander Wynch.

Thomas Cooke, Junr.

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Genl. Lre. to Bengall.

Agreed that a General Letter be drawn out & sent to the President & Council of Bengall to advise them that the five French Ships mentioned to be arriv'd at Pondicherry in our last, left that place the 20th Past bound seemingly to the Southward. That We were sorry His Majesty's Squadron did not appear before they went, as they might have stopp'd a great many Bales & Valuable Effects put on board them, as likewise have prevented their Doing any mischief in other Parts of India. And that We think it cannot now be long before some Ships come to us to take away our Bales & to relieve the Garrison which could not have subsisted had not the President & Council of Bombay supplyed us with forty thousand (40,000) Rupees.

EDW. CROKE.

CHARLES FLOYER.

W. HOLT.

A. WYNCH.

THOMAS COOKE, Junr.

Friday, the 27th February 1746-7.

At a Consultation, Present:

John Hinde, Esqr., *Deputy Governour,*

Edward Croke.

William Holt.

Charles Floyer.

Alexander Wynch.

Thomas Cooke, Junr.

Advice that the Enemy is comming against us.

The Deputy Governour represents to the board that He hath certain Intelligence the Enemy is comeing against us & a large Party came out of Pondicherry yesterday to Areacopang with all necessarys proper for such a Design; upon Hearing of which News We order'd Capt. Gingins to march out early this Morning with about 300 European & Topass Soldiers as likewise Capt. Hollond attended by Mr. Haliburton & Mr. Joseph Fowke with a small Party of European Horse as many as we could get fit for service, together with all our Peons to the number of about three thousand to assemble at the Company's Gardens. Whereupon viewing the whole it was thought they made a tolerable figure able to oppose at least for some time any Forces the French could as yet bring against us, (as far as We could learn by the advices receiv'd of them) if the Blacks do not desert us. And by the appearance of our Military attended by the Gun-room Crew with some Artillery & our European Horsemen, We hope they will be encourag'd to stand their Ground, but without them. We think the Country People would give away as not being us'd to stand against the fire of regular Troops, but Care has not been wanting to put their Chiefs in mind to exercise them often & make them fit for Service in our Way of engageing & the manner shewn them how to behave in time of Action, Agreed that we consult the Chief Officers of the Garrision, If we can risque the same Number of Military in the field that were out this morning & leave a sufficient Number of Men in the Fort for its Security.

Moratta Horse entertained.

The Deputy Governour also represents that he has advice that Meer Sul, Governour of Velloure, has assisted the French with 300 Horse, on which as He is well assur'd that Horsemen are of great Service in the field, He has entertained about 70 Morattoes being as many as He could get from Mohofoz Cawn & Mahmed Ally Cawn while they were encamp'd near our Bounds a short time past, & that He has wrote repeated Letters to them for more, as well as to request their assistance against the Enemy who he has advis'd are coming against us, as likewise to Gingee for one or two hundred Horsemen as good as can be got, & to Captain Hopkins at St. Tho. Mount to send immediately to our assistance a thousand Pollygars, He being advis'd that those people have offer'd their assistance.

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EDW. CROKE.

CHARLES FLOYER.

W. HOLT.

A. WYNCH.

THOMAS COOKE, Junr.

Sunday Evening, 1st March 1746-7.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

JOHN HINDE, ESQr. *Deputy Governour.*

EDWARD CROKE.

WILLIAM HOLT.

CHARLES FLOYER.

ALEXANDER WYNCH.

THOMAS COOKE, Junr.

The Deputy Governour acquaints the board that He being advis'd not to keep the whole Party of Military out that were review'd yesterday, He had order'd Ensign Scrimpshaw with an Hundred men to stay at the Company's Gardens, & Capt. Gingins with the Remainder into the Fort, the Peons were to keep round about, but not to go too far from the Military for fear of a Surprize from the Enemy who were advanc'd about half way from Pondicherry.

French enter our Bounds.

Early this morning advices came that the Enemy marched forward apace, & between 8 & 9 oClock entered our Bounds, Upon which the Governour orderded Capt. Gingins immediately to march out with 100 European & 200 Topasses including Ensign Schrimpshaw's Party & the Train of Atillery with orders to endeavour if possible to hinder the Enemy's crossing Penniar River &

taking Possession of the Garden House, where We judged rightly they would endeavour to fix their Head Quarters, the Horsemen were also out under the Command of Capt. John Hollond. Our Men made a stand for some time near the Points of Tevenepatam & Patcheree, The Enemy being five times the Number of ours, but between one & two our Troops march'd forward to the Banks of Penniar River, The Enemy being on the other Side, & immediately the Field Pieces fir'd very briskly on both Sides. Between 4 & 5 the Enemy press'd hard upon our Troops who did not give way but fir'd briskly their small Arms, but in the Dusk of the Evening, ours being a small body in comparison to the Numbers of the Enemy, could not keep the Field all Night, so were oblig'd to retreat into the Fort which they did in good order & brought all the Artillery with them, & by this means left the Enemy to proceed as they pleas'd.

Officers report their People to have behav'd very well.

The Officers upon coming in, report their People in general behav'd very well, & could not do more than they did with such a Handful of men against the Force of the Enemy, being as they believe at least one thousand Europeans besides Topasses, Coffrees & Seapoys altogether about two thousand. The say they had but little assistance from the Peons & none from the Moratto Horse, they keeping at a great distance & would not come near our Horsemen, that they stayed as long in the Field as they could with Prudence, & report the Enemy to have acted cowardly in not advancing soon upon them; They believe they must have done the Enemy some damage as the Field Pieces were fired between 6 & 7 hundred times, on our side We have only one Topass kill'd, 3 Europeans wounded & a few Peons.

EDW. CROKE.

CHARLES FLOYER.

W. HOLT.

A. WYNCH.

THOMAS COOKE, Jun^r.

Monday, the 16^th March 1746-7.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

JOHN HINDE, ESQ^r., *Deputy Governour.*

EDWARD CROKE.

WILLIAM HOLT.

CHARLES FLOYER.

ALEXANDER WYNCH.

THOMAS COOKE, JUN^r.

Genl. Lrs. from Bombay.

General Letters N^o. 18 & 19 from Bombay read. The former advising that By Order of Governour Morse, Mr. Haliburton had transmitted them the several Articles &^ca Papers relating to the Loss of Madrass, & enclosing a List thereof, Copy of which is Ordered to be enter'd hereafter. They likewise advise that agreable to the directions they had received from the President Council at Fort St. George They had at length ransom'd the Hon'ble Company's Ship *Princess Augusta* for eight thousand 8,000 Rupees, exclusive of some other charges & that they should be glad to know in what Manner, they judge suitable to employ her.

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Ensign's Commission given to Mr. Robert Clive.

Mr. Robert Clive having behaved s a Volunteer in the late Engagement & requesting to be entertain'd an Ensign, The same is granted him & a Commission Ordered to be drawn out accordingly.

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EDW. CROKE.

CHARLES FLOYER.

W. HOLT.

A. WYNCH.

THOMAS COOKE, Jun^{r}.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT :

CHARLES FLOYER, ESQ^{r}., *Governour.*

EDWARD CROKE.

ALEXANDER WYNCH.

WILLIAM HOLT.

THOMAS COOKE, Jun^{r}.

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Commission granted Ensign Wm. de Morgan.

Ensign William de Morgan arriving here a few days past & making Application to be continued in that Commission, Examination is thereupon had into the manner of his escape from Madrass, In vindication whereof He humbly refers the Board to a Letter He wrote Mr. Hinde whilst at Vizagapatam under date the 8th April wherein He had given a perfect relation of that Proceeding. The said Letter being produced by the Governour is delivered the Secretary & read as entered hereafter, & as it appears from several Circumstances of the said Letter as well as from other Accounts that He did not desert his Post till the Surrendry of the Town was actually agreed on, which putting it out of his power to be of any farther Service in the Defence of it, He then escaped with his men thinking to come immediately to the relief of this place then in the Utmost Want of Assistance, & as it likewise plainly appears that by this proceeding He was not only the Preserver of his men but of a Couple of Ships that must otherwise have infallibly fallen into the Hands of the enemy, in consideration of these Consequences & of his good Intentions to come to the Relief of this Garrison, The Board think it but just that He be acquitted herein and as such, It is Ordered that a new Commission be drawn out and delivered him for to act in his former Capacity.

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WORSH^{l} SIR,

The above is what I had just finish'd at Vizagapatam when Mr. Prince sent me an order to get ready to go to Fort S^{t} David & Ship *Success* which made me defer sending the Letter as I was coming myself. On the 13th Ultimo in the Night I went aboard & the 14th in the Morning We weighed

& stood off S. S. E. The Wind at S. W. We could but just see the Dolphin's Nose when the Ship prov'd so leaky We was obliged to put back again and went away to Callingapatam where We sent Letters ashore to be forwarded to Vizagapatam, in answer to which We had orders to make the best of our Way to Ganjam, where I am now waiting with impatience till I can Meet with such another opportunity which I am afraid won't be till August.

The 3rd Instant I had the agreeable News of the arrival of our Squadron from Bengall which occasion'd the flight of the cursed Enemy we have to deal with, & don't doubt to hear by the next packet of your Worship's being in possession of Pondicherry & Madrass.

I was in great hopes of being there at the taking of it, but as there is no possibility of expecting Such Honours, I beg leave with submission to conclude.

Worsh^l Sir,
Your Worship's most obedient,
most humble & submissive Servant,

——
—*April 1747.*

WILLIAM de MORGAN.

Monday, the 31st August 1747.

At a Consultation, Present:

Charles Floyer, Esqr., *Governour.*
Edward Croke.
Alexander Wynch.
William Holt.
Thomas Cooke, Junr.

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From Nabob Nauzir Jung, To the Commodore of the English Men of War.

Receiv'd. the 6 June 1747.

The Contents of your Letter explain'd to me that You had once wrote me before & that the French who possess'd Chinapatam are troublesome &ca. This was occasion'd by the Carelessness & Want of Diligence of the Deputy of that Fort, who notwithstanding he had a considerable quantity of warlike Stores & other Implements & provisions enough to support against a Siege, surrendered so strong a Fort & has been the occasion of the universal Destruction, Loss & Misfortune of the Inhabitants in General, He was the cause of all the Merchants & other Tradesmen being plunder'd of all their Money & Effects, & the means of all the Disturbances. I never receiv'd the other Letter You spoke off, & as to What You wrote me that the above misfortune had happened by Mahaphoojee Cawn's neglecting to give his assistance, I must inform you that the said Cawn was near the ———— & offer'd a Siege & Engagement. But by reason of the ———— of the Place, as well as your not sending any Assistance, & the Impatience that had been made ——— of in some things, [did not accomplish the Design, & it was the Will of God Almighty, it is not any Ways owing to the Disregard of the brave Anaverdy Cawn.

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Exd.—B. M.

Government of India Central Printing Office—No. 869 F. D.—2-2-93—500.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

HONOURABLE

The unfortunate occasion of this unexpected address from us is to advise your Honours of the Loss of your valuable Settlement of Madrass which to our Unspeakable Concern is now in the Possession of our Enemys the French. As the Gentlemen there seem to think the absence of His Majesties Squadron (which they no doubt depended upon for Assistance) greatly conduced to this Misfortune, We shall give an account of what we know for certainty of their Motions only; and leave your Honours to form Judgement without Presuming to give any of our own.

The 29th April Mr Barnet departed this Life at—Place when all the Ships were here or near us, but the *Winchester*, Lord Thomas Bertie who was expected daily from Bombay and arrived 25th May, from which time Captain Peyton who then Commanded the Squadron as Senior Captain, determined on going to refit his Ship, the *Medway*, which was very leaky at Trancomalay Bay on the Island of Zeylone and to take the whole Squadron with him. The 30th your Honours Ship the *Princess Mary* arrived on whome we had Orders to send to Madrass what bales we had ready and to receive from Lord Thomas Bertie Sixty (60) Chests of Treasure brought from Bombay on your Honours Account; to keep what we wanted for the Use of this Settlement and to send remainder on the *Princees Mary* but not to detain her longer in our Road then the Squadron staid there. In Pursuance of which we kept Sixteen (16) Chests here and loaded the remainder on that Ship, and prevailed on Captain Peyton to stay till the 9th June, but it hapning to blow very fresh at that time we could not load more then two hundred and Twenty two (222) Bales which as it has since proved was very fortunate. The 9th she sailed for Madrass under Convoy of His Majesties ship the *Lively* as did the rest of the Squadron for Trancomalay. On the 17th Captain Peyton wrote Mr Hinde from Nagapatam that as they were just got to the Bay, the *Preston's* Bow Sprit was sprung and She could Cary no sail, for which reason they were obliged to Bare away for that Place in order to refit her and then Sail for Trancomalay. On the 25th at day Break from the Mast head Negapatam Road they made several ships in sight and found them to be (9) nine French Ships but the Winds being very light, they cou'd not get up with each other till half past four in the Evening, at which time an Engagement began and lasted till about seven when it grew dark. The Next Morning they were near one another and continued so all the day. At Four in the afternoon Captain Peyton summoned a Councell of Warr, where it was agreed not to Engage the Enemy but to proceed for Trancomalay Bay, as the French did for Pondicherry and arrived there the 27th: In the English Squadron were fourteen killed and forty six wounded, but not one killed or hurt on the *Medway*. On the French side we cannot learn the particulars for any certainty, their Squadron consisted of the *Achilles*, a Seventy Gun Ship, Six Company's Ships and Two Country ships. The *Achilles* with three of them left Europe together in April was twelve months. Two of them were returning Ships detained at the Islands for this purpose, and all reinforced as much as they cou'd there. Captain Peyton kept the Squadron at Trancomalay till the begining of August when he came on the Coast and appeared off Negapatam the 6th. The French Squadron consisting of Eight Ships, (one being gone to Bengall and is since lost in that River with Two hundred & Eighty, (280) Europeans) Weighed from Pondicherry the 24th July for the Southward, and near then in that Road, stood out to meet the English Squadron which stood to the Southward from them, and the French then returned, the 7th both Squadrons did the same as likewise the 8th & 9th: The 10th the English disappeared, on which the French returned, and on the 13th anchored in Pondicherry Road. The 17th the Eight Ships weighed for Madrass Road where they arrived the 18th and Fired on the *Princess Mary*, which was returned from the Ship and from the Fort. Each ship gave her a broadside as she stood to the Northward and another as she returned, and then stood to the Southward again, We are sinc informed they had two motives for this Expedition, One was to make a Plea with the Country Government that the English Committed the first Hostillities ashoar, and the other to see if Captain Peyton wou'd come to our assistance or not. The 23d Captain. Peyton with the Squadron stood into Pullical. Road where he sent his Lieutenant Mr. Weeims on board a Vessel in the Road who was there told of all the Circumstances of their attacking the *Princess Mary* and of their then being between Madrass and Pondicherry, on which he disappeared, and has never since been heard of, or from by any of the English, though their has no lost or Pains been spared for that purpose, as may easily be imagined from the Since mellancholly situation of affairs on this Coast. The last letter that was received from any one belonging to the Squadron was from Captain Peyton to Governr Morse dated the 4th August when he was just come out from refitting. This unhappy conduct so animated our Enemys that they determined on attacking Fort St George. We call it unhappy because it has truely been sad in its consequences, though what reason Captain Peyton could have for this Proceeding we know not. Accordingly the 2d the French squadron Weighed again from Pondichery. The 4th they landed their Men at St. Thome and thereabouts, and the 5th began the attack chiefly depending upon their shells. The 10th the Town surrender'd but on what Terms as we are not perfectly Informed, we shall not presume to trouble your honours with Flying Reports. We are pretty well assured there are as yet no Terms complyed with, and that Monsieur De Preminit is gone there from Pondicherry to command the Garrison. The 2d Instant the seven French ships in the Road having taken what quantity of money, Goods, Ammunition and Stores they thought proper were to sail the 3d for Pondichery, and from thence immediately hither to attack this Place, but it pleased God that night and the next Morning it Blew so hard as to Founder the *Duc de Orleans*, their second Ship in force, & Two more, the *Achilles* of Seventy Guns, the Commoders, and only Ship of Considerable Force either cut away, or lost all her Masts, as did the three others, so that twelve hundred (1,200) men have perished, and the whole Squadron is Utterly disabled, and their Design against this place render Impracticable for the Present, though it is the opinion of most of our Officers that had they come, we should have taken up more of their time than they had to spare. We have about Twenty of the King's people that were left ashoar sick who have put our Gun-room in Excellent order, some of the people came to us from Madras though not many, The additions and alterations to our Fort within this Twelve month have made it Infinitely more secure than it was. We have full six months Provisions of all Kinds in the Fort so that we doubt not we should have been able to make a defence for a considerable Time had they come; they now Talk of comeing to us by Land, in which case We Bless God we are no ways apprehensive but with the Common protection of Providence we shall be able to Defend and Secure this Place till we are releived, for which purpose We assure your Honours our Utmost Endeavours shall be used. Your Honour Vessels the *Mermaid* and *Advice Snow* were both taken by the French Squadron in Madras Road and both lost in the Storm, The *Princess Mary* was skuttled and run into the surf, but is since got off by the French. The *Sumatra* and *Brilliant* from the West Coast passed by this Road the 19th August. They were near enough for us to see they had colours out, and we knowing the French Squadron was off Conimere or thereabouts, made a Waft of our Flag for Six hours and Fired a Gun which the Masters say they did not see, & sailed on into the Squadron wch having English Colours they took for ours, and were lost but had Time to throw their Papers overboard. It must naturally appear to your Honours and indeed to all the World a very Extraordinary Circumstance that the Nabob and Country Government should permit our Enemies to take this advantage of us, When it has been in obedience to their Commands and for the Peace and Welfare of their Country alone, that has prevented the English a long while from acting in the same manner——and thereby putting it out of their Power to give us this——answer, to which the French say they had the Nabob's permission for these Hostillitys ashoar, and do not Scruple to declare publickly they gave him One hundred thousand (100000) Pagodas for the Liberty of so doing, and when they landed their People they produced his Perwanah which met with Universal Credit, though the Nabob now disowns his having granted any. Your Honours may be sure all Methods that can be thought of have been used to represent to the Nabob the Monstrous Injustice as well as Ill Pollicy of this his Proceeding, to which he replyes he never gave them any such Liberty. That his son was going to the Assistance of Madrass, but it was given up before he Cou'd get thither, and assures us he will Joyn with the English to destroy Pondicherry. This was the substance of his Letter in answer to Mr. Hindes' remonstrances to him, and assures us of his assistance though at the same time he carrys on a close Correspondance with the French and expects no doubt his share of the Booty, in which respect it is possible he may be disappointed. We shall not fail to keep on good Terms with them, though wee Cannot Flatter ourselves with hopes of much of any assistance from him as nothing of that Nature has yet appeared in consequence of his repeated Promises, though we have been in daily expectation of our Enemyes appearing against us, as no doubt they would before now, had not many unforseen Circumstances Concurr'd to keep them much longer at Madrass than they (or we cou'd have Expected after the Surrend of that Place, and at last this for us most Fortunate Storm, which we look upon as distinguishing Mark of Providence in our Favour that greatly encourages us under our present difficultys, the particulars of which We shall not take up your Honours leisure with as it is not now in your Power to relieve us in Time, but we have wrote to Bengall and Bombay for that purpose, and hope they will have regard enough for your Honours Interest to succour us speedily.

On the 25th August arrived at Mayhee Three French ships, one called the *Cantaur* of Seventy Guns being of equal Force and burthen with the *Achilles*, One of Forty and another of Twenty Guns, those ships arrived at Pondicherry the 27th of September and sailed from thence the 14th instant. Four that came out of Europe in Company with them are said to be gone for China. We have no news of the arrival of any of your Honours ships in India. We hear from Mocha that Mr. Adair dyed at Beethporckee as did Captain Wells of the *Pelham* at Bombay, We have had no news from Bengall this season. The *Mermaid's* Packet comeing from thenee fell into the Enemyes hands in Madrass Road. The *Sumatra* is we heard designed from Pondichery for Europe where the Shatter'd Remains of Monsieur La Bourdonnais Squadron is Bound, or the above three ships we cannot learn as yet. Fifty of the Military belonging to Madrass perished on the three ships that were lost, the remainder they sent —— and releived them as the people themselves say for being —— them in the storm. There was not only a great deal of the military out of Madrass on board those three ships but a good number was lost at the same time going to Pondicherry in open boats. The Intercourse of letters between Madrass and this place have been stoped ever since the Town was invested, only three from Governor Morse to Mr Hinde having came out as yet from thence, and the fear of their being Intercepted occasions their being wrote only in General Terms, so that we know not for certainty on what Footing the Gentlemen there are, but Mr Morse writes the De Tong the Dutch Governor of Pullicat refused giving the Women and Children his Protection, and sent them all back again which was a great Inconveniency to the Place. Mr Morson, the Governour at Negapatam has been more humane and has taken all the familys from this Place under his Protection and Treats them with great humanity. Immediately on hearing Madrass had surrendered We came to a Resolution of stopping the Investment, as your Cash was very low indeed about Ten thousand (10,000) Pagodas only, though the merchants have had no advance since we received the silver mentioned above from Bombay, which was the begining of June, notwithstanding which and many other Impediments which your Honours may be more fully apprized of hearafter from our Letters between Madrass and here, we have about One thousand Five hundred (1500) Bales and shall in January be able to make them up One thousand Eight hundred (1800,) to Load a ship, Please God, we have any come to us, and had more money we cou'd Provide much more:

John Crabb, Quarter Master of one of His Majesties Ships having a little money and being desirous to secure it, we have received into your Honours Cash One hundred and Ninety (190) Pagodas for which we have given him certificates of the Receipt, and request he may be paid in England the amounts of the same:

SUPPLEMENT.

Since writing the above we have received a Letter signed by Governour Morse and the Gentlemen at Madrass, Copy of which we send Inclosed in this Packet. In it is mentioned Articles of Capitulation, for the Ramson of that Place which is all we yet know and thought proper to advise your Honours of it. What the terms are we know not but they are very Ill kept by Monseiur Dupleix, the Governour of Pondicherry, who sent out Three hundred (300) men to surprize them on the Way, which they did and have carried them all Prisoners of War into Pondicherry. The Three Ships that we advise above to be sailed from Pondicherry are returned with Two of the Disabled ships, so that they are now in that Road and the offing Five ships compleatly Rigg'd and Five Disabled besides small vessels. We are with the utmost Fidellity and Respect,

Honourable

Your faithfull and most obedient &
Humble Servants

FORT ST. DAVID
17th October, 1746.

JOHN HINDE
EDWARD CROKE
CHARLES TAYLER
WILLIAM HOLT
ALEXANDER WYNCH
THOMAS COOKE JUNR.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England tradeing to the East Indies.

HONOURABLE.

Our last address bore date the 17th October and went by your Honours Sloop the *Porto bello,* which sailed from Negapatam the 22d: In this Packet comes a Fifth Copy of that Letter. Since that time your Honours Affairs on this Coast have Continued in the same Uncertain Posture. We have not been so fortunate as to receive either Letters or Succours from Bengall though so near us and to Windward, and we have been very Importunate in our Letters on this occasion, The only alterations in our favour Since we wrote you last is that we have prevailed wth the Country Government to declare in our favour and in Consequence of it the Nabob sent his Son Mahmed Ally Cawn with about Two thousand Horse to our assistance the begining of last month, notwithstanding which, the French thought Proper, the 8th Ultimo, to come against us with their whole Force from Pondichery when we made the best Defence we were able, and notwithstanding they got as far as the Garden House We had the good Fortune on the 9th to drive them out and compel them to a very Precipitate Retreat. In which they had Killed and Wounded by the best accounts We can get, Upwards of a hundred and seventy of their soldiers, they left behind two mortars, all their Ammunition & Camp Furniture, Every thing they brought but the Arms they bore, our Loss was very inconsiderable. The 20th We are advised they fitted out a Force by sea to surprize us that day but Providence disappointed them, some of their Boats were drove ashoar and their ammunition all spoiled, which reduced them to a necessity of laying aside their Design and putting back into Aria Copang River: The 31st We had a skirmish by Land, we again obtained an advantage over them, and had we even then been succoured your Honours Affairs would have been in all humain-probabillity Restored in a great measure If not altogether. The Nabob was so well disposed towards us, but as yet we have not had a line or any assistance from Bengall since Madrass was taken, now 4 months. The Nabob's Eldest son, Mahofiz Cawn, is now joyned by his Brother, and the Expence of the Camp Amounts to Upwards of Six thousand Rupees ℔ day, and they with reason grow Extreamly Impatient and we fear will Quit our Interest. if some ships do not appear soon to assist us. Shipping of all Nations have long since been on the Coast, and to our great concern and Uneasiness Four of the French Squadron are returned and are now at Pondicherry, one of them the *Cantaur*, best ship they have in India, and Five more ships in that Road,in all Nine, and it is that Renders our Scituation so precarious, and for which reason we send this away in a hurry to Tranquebar. least we should be besieged and deprived of an opportunity of so doing. With it we send our Consultation, the Loss of Madrass, which contain a Journal of what we have done for the Preservation of the Settlement for which our Utmost Endeavours have been Employed, we hope it will meet with your Honours approval. We shall only add we think it somewhat unkind in our Countrymen and Fellow Servants to have abandoned us, and that we will do all wee can under these discourageing Circumstances, and Trust to Providence for the Events. Hitherto we have been but a small Expence, our Presents to the Country Government not Exceeding above Three thousand 3,000 Pagodas, Triffle not worth mentioning in Proportion to the Expence they are at, and the Desquiet it has given our Enemys, who are trying every possible method to make up Affairs with them, and the above Circumstance greatly Facillitate their Negotiotion as they clog the Wheels of ours. We have in General Terms promised in your Honours' name that we will not be ungrateful for any favours The Nabob may to show us:

Whilst the above was writeing a Message came from the Nabob's sons adviseing that their Father was actually treating with the French, and that Four Prisoners were sent to Pondicherry from Arcot w^{ch} Renders our Affairs to Precarious that we shall only advise your Honours of the Arrival of what shipping is to come to our Knowledge, and send this away in hopes of haveing an Oppertunity of writeing again by this ship a Day or Two hence. In the meantime We shall use all possible methods with the Nabob and his sons to have regard to our Interest according to their Repeated Promises, and to procure the Restitution of Madrass as one of the Terms, if possible, which they still promise, as well as our security, though their Councils are so Influened by Immediate Gain, there is no depending upon them:

On the 23rd October Comodore Griffin in the *Princess Mary* and with the *Pearl* Arrived at Atcheen and sailed from thence for Ballasore, the 2^{d} of November to joyn His Majesties Squadron, who were all safe in that River, the begining of September. The 5th November the *Britannia* Captain Sommer Put into Madrass but got clear as soon as he found out his Mistake, and we hear since he is at Galle whither we have sent him orders to come here. The *Houghton* Captain Worth went to Bencoolen, and from thence Endeavoured to get to Madrass but fell to leeward and came here, the 5th December, and on hearing Madrass was taken he went away at Eleven at Night Contrary to orders, and we Fireing at him, without sending us the Packet or Intelligence of any kind whatever which disheartned our Garrison Extreamly in the necessitous Condition we must be in and greatly Encouraged our Enemys. On the 28th and 30th September The *Marlbrough* and *Montford* arrived at Bengall as did the *Salisbury* the 10th October. The *Ilchester* arrived at Anyengo the 6th of October. The *Warwick* arrived at Bombay the 19th November, and *Severn* from Mocha the 27th: The *Essex* sailed from thence for Great Britain the 16th September last fully laided with Coffee, and the *Pelham* at the same Time who was dispatched to be filled up at Tillicherry, left that Place the 10th October. The *Somerest* and *Dragon*, were Safe in the Streights of Sunda, and all was well at the West Coast when the *Houghton* left that Place.

We hear from Pondicherry that the *St. Lewis* is loading for Europe and *Princess Mary* for the Islands, M^{r} Morse, Manson, Stratten, and Savage are there prisoners at Tranquebar, M^{r} Harris here, and M^{r} Fowke at Pullicat. Severall of the Inferior Serv^{ts}: are here whome we are obliged to provide for or they cou'd not subsist. M^{r} John Pybus being a new hand We have Employed him in the

Secretary's Office and take the liberty of recommending him to your Honours Favour. The French have made a most advantageous use of last Month, and thus haveing in that time brought every thing away from Madrass that is Valuable or Useful for the defence of Pondicherry without any Molestation, and stocked themselves with grain from that Place which was much wanted at their own, On the Receipt of a letter from the President and Council before they left Madrass desireing us to send the Proper Orders as they Cou'd not to the Northern Settlements & Shipping, We directed the Gentlemen at Vizagapatam to send what bale they had hither, Provided any of your Shipping Called there under Proper Convoy, and at Ingeram to send them likewise, provided they had not already sent them to Bengall as the Gentlemen there had advised them, but to act descretionally in Case of any Enemies appearing, as then there was none at each Place, they have about (800) Eight hundred Bales white and Brown and we have about Seventeen hundred (1,700) which we wish we may have Tonnage for. We shall now concluded with assuring your Honours We have omitted nothing that occurred to us for the Preservation of the Settlement and we Bless God our Endeavours hitherto have been Crowned with as much Success as our Warmest Expectations Cou'd hope for. We wish we may be releived in Time for we were always Ill provided, and are now in the Utmost want of almost Every thing. We hope to have the pleasure to advise you by this ship of the arrival of the Squadron on the Coast, and we are in the mean-time with the utmost Fidellity and respect:

Honourable.

Fort St. David

10th Jan^ry 1746-7.

Your most Faithful and Obt. hum Ser^ts:

JOHN HINDE

EDWARD CROKE

CHARLES FLOYER

WILLIAM HOLT

ALXANDER WYNCH

THOMAS COOKE Junr.

Postscript.

Since closeing the above we have News from Vizagapatam by a Boat arrived at Pullicat that M^r Prince there has sent Saltpetre and Rice for the use of this Settlement. That the *Kent* was arrived there for theirs and the Ingeram Bales and sailed again for Bengall the 25th Ultimo. That the *Medway* had carried away her main mast in heaveing down, that six ships wou'd be ready to sail the Neeps between the fall and change in December, that they waited with great Impatience for Comōdore Griffen's arrival. Since this M^r Prince writes that he has news, the Commodore arrived the 7th December at Connika near Ballasore, that we imagine the 6: ships must have joyned in 5 or 6 days after that or that we may expect to see them every hour on the Coast, by this it is plain the Gentlemen at the Bay have not had the least thought of us, nor have we yet received a Letter. We hope it will be possible to keep the Nabob in humour a little longer, If that can be done, or any method used to preserve this Place till we are succoured, we hope in our next to advise your Honours that Madrass is in your possession again on reasonable Terms. Some Expence must be depended upon when such large Negotiations are

Transacting with so lucrative a Government as the Moors are well known to be.

We are
Honourable,

Fort St. David,
10th Jan^{ry}: 1746-7.

Your Most Faithful and Obt: Hum. Serv^{ts}:

JOHN HINDE
EDWARD CROKE
CHARLES FLOYER
WILLIAM HOLT
ALEXZANDER WYNCH
THOMAS COOKE Junr.

To the Honourable Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies:

* * * * * *

Since our last Account of the melancholy Situation of this Settlement which must Certainly have appeared to be very Precarious, We had the misfortune to be reduced to almost inevitable. Danger, for as our security chiefly depended on the assistance of the Moors, We were soon brought to the utmost Extremity by being abandoned by them: notwithstanding all the arguments and Persuasions that could possibly be used on our parts to Continue them in our Interest, but the long delay of our ships with the uncertainty of their coming at all, and the frequent offers and proposals they received from the French, which arose to five Lack of Rupees, made all our endeavours prove fruitless, as we could by no means think of making such offers, and if we could, they would have still outbid us, having this advantage of us, that if they did not perform their Promises, they could not be on worse Terms then they were, whereas We must literally have performed all ours upon the whole. On the 4th February, both their armies decamp'd, leaving us wholly to ourselves; In which destitute Circumstances the French, on the last of February, came out of Pondicherry, and on the 1st March made another attempt upon us by Land, bringing with them a Force considerably superior to any yet sent or we could equal in more than a Quarter part. Nevertheless on their approaching near the Bounds We sent out all our Peons, with one hundred Europeans Military two hundred Topasses, and some Artillery to repell them if possible at least to ———— to their Entrance for awhile in hopes of doing them some mischief, and that every hour might produce something in our favour, which as Providence ordained, it answered our intentions so well, that though we could not defeat them, our party engaged them so warmly, that we had the good fortune to keep them from Crossing Punniar River all that day, and to do them considerable Damage, but night coming on and our people no ways equal to keep the Field against such a Superior Force were constrained to retire to the Fort, by which means, the Enemy had an open Feild all that Night, when, and on the 2^{d} in the morning early they March'd with all their Troops to the Garden House, from whence it would have been impracticable for us to have drove them away, but it happen'd very fortunately before they had Time to raise any Batteries, or to do much damage in the Bounds, We had the inexpressible Joy and satisfaction to discover Nine Sail in the offing, which proved to be His Majesties Squadron under the Command of Commodore Griffin, this for us most Welcome Sight made them quit their Quarters and betake to Flight immedeately, which they did so speedily that though we had Eight hundred Men landed with the utmost Expedition by the Commodore in order to cut them off in their

Retreat, yet they were got so far on their way, that it was in vain to pursue them, altho: their Stay at the Gardens was very short they took care to do as much mischief as they could in the time and burnt several Houses about the Bounds., but as these Damages are nothing in Comparison to the ill consequences that might have attended us had they continued longer for even one day more, We have reason to Bless God for appearing thus once more so manifestly and critically in our favour.

* * * * * *

We find from several instances in our late Misfortunes that the Nabob and other Principal persons of this Country are of such an extream lucrative Disposition, that there is no hopes of fixing them stedfast in our Interest by any other method but by the Force of Money, & that they are so exceeding Avaritious (occasioned by the large Proffers they have received from the French) that nothing less than Lacks will go near to satisfie them:,

These are such large sums beyond what we think in our Power to dispose of, that we never Attempted to make them Any such Offers, but as a means to encourage them in our Cause, We have several times promised them in General Terms that your Honours will not be ungratefull for any substantial Service we may receive from them, which with some small presents we may make as a Pledge of our sincerity, We hope will have the desir'd effect & procure their assistance when requir'd.

The Presents that we made them whilst the Nabob's two Armies were Encamped without our Bounds for near three Months at an expence of upwards of six thousand Rupees ꝑ Day in our Defence, did not amot to above forty thousand (40,000) Rupees which in Comparison to the Service they were of in defeating the French in their attempt upon this place on the 9th of December, we are of opinion you will allow to be very inconsiderable, & therefore persuade ourselves it will meat with your approval, we endeavoured to keep them longer with us for our Security, as we daily expected His Majesties Squadron, & Mr Hinde offer'd them two thousand (2,000) Rupees ꝑ Day to stay only ten days, but he could not prevail on them:

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Most part of the Military that could escape out of Madrass have come here whom we have taken into Service:

The Officers are all with us, who offering their Service, as we were much in want of them we have continued them in their former Commissions, and the Lieutenants having behav'd very well here in the two Actions with the Enemy, we take the liberty to recommend them to your Honours to have Captains Commissions Conferr'd on them:

The Inferiour Officers and Military as well those in the Gun-room, we have rewarded with Clothing as more fully set forth in our Consultation of the 2d March:

Mr Robert Clive, Writer in the Service, being of a Martial Disposition and having acted as a Volunteer in our late engagements we have granted him an Ensign's Commission upon his application for the same:

The number of Military in this Garrison we think necessary to represent, was at all times very insufficient for the Defence of it and is much more so at this junction, our Enemy's Garrison at Pondichery being so superior to us, they can sally out a thousand Europeans at any time, and commit any damages they please about us, for want of a proper number to oppose them, we therefore request you will take this into your serious Consideration & that you will supply us with as many as appear to be necessary:

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Seventhly accounts.

We are infinetely concerned among other misfortunes to acquaint you that all the Books and Papers relating to your Honours Affairs at Madrass have met with the like Fate of that Settlement, and are in possession of the French, which not only Grieves us, that they should fall under their inspection, but renders us at a great Loss to find out the Several Credits that are due to you. In which Circumstance, we shall make it our Business from time to time to get the best insight of by examination of the Conicoplys[*] who are now begining to come here daily, and whatever Balliances we can find out shall be duely received and accounted for:

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Tenthly concerning the French and other European Nations in India ;

The prorcedings of the French both at Madrass and Pondicherry have in General been so Cruel and Inhumane that they seem rather to imitate a Persecution than a Warr, they have refused the Commodore to exchange a single Prisoner notwithstanding the several they owe us, and we have some of theirs, and on a sudden drove away all the Women and Children that had Liberty to stay at the Mount, plundering them of every thing they had, and afterwards set Fire to their Houses, and this at a time when they were preparing to come against this place:

They have been very busy in fortifying the white Town in Madrass and have nearly destroy'd the Black:

By the best Accounts we learn from their own people that have deserted here, they have 1300 Europeans in Garrison at Pondicherry, & about 400 in Madrass, besides a large number of Peons & Coffrees at each place. Indeed they have so many people that we may hope their Numbers alone will tend to their destructions, as they are already in great scarcity of Provisions.

We are not at presents in a thorough Capacity to make any material attempts against them, but as soon as we may be better enabled by a reinforcement of the Squadron or otherwise, Mr Griffin has assured us that no industry or endeavours shall be wanting on his Part to revenge our past injuries to the utmost in his Power;

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, dated Fort St. David 15th May 1747.

* * * * * *

We being lately advised that Ensign Van Franken was very busy among the French after the Surrendry of Madrass and did actually give Monssr DeLa Bourdonnais a Plan of the Town, for this & other misdemeanours by him Committed, we have dismissed him from your Honour's service, & sent him to Europe on the *Lapwing*, the Capt having strict orders not to let him go on shore at any place he may touch at:

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies dated Fort St. David 25th April 1748.

* * * * * *

Your Honours direct that in regard to Major Lawrance's Allowances, they be on the same footing as Major Knipe enjoyed, We must take the Liberty to acquaint you that Gentleman having Borrowed money of the Company in England and Dying soon after his arrival in Madrass, he received no pay there, nor can we get certain Information of what was to be allowed him, We have therefore settled his Sallary as Major at £300 ℘ annum, and Pagodas 50 ℘ month for other Allowances, besides £70 ℘ anñ: as third in Council, which we hope Your Honours will approve of, and we must assure you he takes a great deal of pains in training up the Military and making the several dispositions necessary, already this Garrison is in better order than Could well be expected, considering the short time that Gentleman has been with us;

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As our Enemies are furnished with a Troop of Horse by which they have greatly the advantage of us in sending out Parties thereof, that make frequent

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[*] Canicoplys, properly, Kanakkapillai, also corruptly Conocopillay; also, any clerk or accountant. *Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

Incursions near our Limits & the adjacent Villages, we have thought it absolutely necessary w^{th} the Opinion of Major Lawrance and several of the Officers, to raise a Troop also in your service, and have granted Commissions to Lieutenant Gingins and M^{r} Hallyburton to act as Lieutenants, & one to Ensign Cheesborough to be a Cornett, these being properest persons. We have only been able to provide Horses and Accouterments for 30 men, but we daily expect more Horses from the Country, and hope in a short time to make up this number one Hundred.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, dated Fort St: David 2^{d} Septr. 1748.

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As soon as our Forces were landed from the Fleet they immediately encamp'd to the Eastward of the Gardon house, where they Continued till all the Baggage and the Train was landed, when your Honours Troops under the Command of Major Lawrance joyned them, and the 8th Ult^{o}: they set out for Pondicherry but were obliged to make very short marches on account of their Baggage. That it was the 12^{th} before they got to a small Fort of the Enemy named Arcacopang about three miles to the Southword of Pondicherry, which was so well fortified by fascine Batteries and other works they had thrown up there that it was the 19^{th} before they got possession thereof. Whilst they were before this place the Enemy one morning attacked our Trenches upon which our people gave way and very unfortunately our brave Major & one Captain Bruce of the Independent Companies, by their people leaving them, were made prisoners. And we should have suffered Considerably had not Captain Holland (from whome we are afraid we shall have no more service this season as he has received a musket shot in his shoulder) with a great deal of briskness rallied our people, who upon giving one smart fire drove the Enemy quite away and took several Prisoners. We have since received a letter from the Major who says he rec^{d}: no hurt in the action, and that they meet extream good treatment. We have also been so unfortunate as to loose Mr. John Hallyburton to whom, as we before acquainted your Honours, we had given a Commission to be Lieutenant of the Troop of Horse, and of which he was very deserving, for he took infinite trouble in disciplining the Troop and shewed himself very active in the field, It was by one of our own Sepoys that he had the misfortune to be killed who shot him upon his reprimanding him for some offence of which the poor Gentleman died the next day, And the Villain did not live so long, for his Comrades that stood by him cut him to picess immediately. When we had got possession of Arcacopang after a stay there of a few days, they marched round to the westward, and are since gone to the Northward, where they are landing their heavy Artillery and carrying on their approaches :,

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Your Honours orders relating to not suffering a Romish Church or their Preists within our Bounds, should have been immediately put in execution, but after Some Consideration we found it would be attended with very ill Consequences at this Juncture having 529 Topasses in Garrison, and were we to turn the two priests out not one would remain with us and we beg leave to advise your Honours the Officers assure us they behaved very well in all the actions against the Enemy, particularly in the last at Cuddalore of which Major Lawrance was an Eye witness, and it was his opinion although he is not here to confirm it, that we ought not to run the risque of loosing such a part of the Garrison whome we think must be attached to this place by liveing long in it, the greatest part of them having Families here, we have not lost one by desertion which would not have been prevented from some of the outposts had they been so inclined. The Enemy at Pondicherry would have gladly rec^{d} them which would have distressed us very much, upon the whole we hope we shall not be censured for not Complying with this order as we are of opinion it would have proved of the highest ill Consequence to have put the same in execution at this Juncture when we are so much in want of men; but as soon as we are furnished with a sufficient number of Europeans, we shall not then hesitate at putting your orders into immediate execution.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, dated Fort St. David, 17th Octr: 1748.

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In our letter by the *Benjamin* of the 2d September, a Triplicate of which we now enclose, we acquainted your Honours of the Misfortune we had met with in losing our Major who was taken Prisoner by the Enemy at Arcacopang as also of the Fate poor Mr. Hallyburton met with: In the Several Skirmishes since with the Enemy Lieutenant Browne of the Bengall Detachment has been killed and Ensign Wright of the Bombay Detachment, and by the inclosed return you will observe the number of men we have lost on this expedition. There is an exchange of Prisoners on foot between the Genl and Mr Dupleix who is very ready to exchange all but Major Lawrance, as he is pretty well acquainted with the use that Gentleman is of to us, but as the General has returned him for answer that unless he is exchanged none of the rest shall, but be sent to Europe, we hope that may have an effect upon him and induce him to favour us with the Major again. Capt Morgan having laid down on account of his age and Infrimities, Capt Holland acts at present as Commandant, being pretty well recovered of the wound he received at Arcacopang:

Exd.—R. B.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 820 F. D.—25-8-92—500.

Bengal Public Consultations, 1747-48.

Fort William, February 1747-48.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE JOHN FORSTER, ESQ., *President.*
MESSRS. WILLIAM BARWELL.
ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.

MR. WILLIAM KEMPE down the River.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the table.

The 25th.—We received a letter from Edward Eyles, Esq., &c., Council at Cossimbuzar, dated the 19th instant, advising of their having sent Ensign McKeion with all the Military that are able to travel, one hundred and fifty Buxerries,[1] four field-pieces, and a large quantity of ammunition to Cutway with orders to the Ensign to make enquiry in what state the fleet really was, and to endeavour to secure all the goods he possibly could; that they would have again applied to the Nabob to assist them with the forces gone that way in protecting their goods which he readily consented to do, and orders were sent accordingly; that they have great reason to complain of Ensign English's conduct for not waiting at Placey and advising them of the opposition he met with before we came to that place whereby they could easily have sent him the above mentioned reinforcement and supply of ammunition, as well as have directed him how to act; and that had he stayed another day at Placey as Tutterooly Cawn was marching with a large force towards Cutway, they presume the Morattoes would have retreated inland on their approach, and left him an open passage; and though the accounts they have received differ in many circumstances, yet all agree that the Ensign, by the encouragement the Morattoes gave him of passing quietly, went out of deep water and a place of (*sic* in original) he might have defended himself till he was reinforced, and by placing too much confidence in their pretended insurances left his budgerow and put himself in their power. That as they had reason to think from these confirmed accounts the Ensign was guilty of great mismanagement, they thought proper to send Ensign McKeion to take the command from him. That their vacqueels have informed them that ten horsemen belonging to Bellaray have arrived at Patna to demand the reason Shumsheer Cawn assassinating Tindehamud Cawn, when he knew that Bellaray was coming to receive the Chowte[2] the Nabob had agreed to pay him. That the Nabob told the vacqueels that as Bellaray was now within a few days' march of Patna, he should shortly set out for that place, and advised them to take care of themselves, as he expected the Morattoes would, on his leaving the city, be all round them. They therefore beg of us to send them as large a reinforcement as can possibly be spared from Calcutta on these approaching troubles.

Yesterday we received another letter from the gentlemen at Cossimbuzar, dated the 21st instant, enclosing copies of the examinations of three soldiers and the Jemindar who went down with Ensign English concerning what had happened in the passage of the fleet between that place and Cutway. That they endeavoured to send a person from thence to the Morattoe General to try if he could by any means obtain reparation for the same; but as such a design could not be executed there with secrecy enough to prevent its coming to the Nabob's knowledge, and the man intended to be sent being afraid of his anger declined going, they leave it to us to pursue such measures therein as we think best. That besides what the Hon'ble Company lost, the treasure and goods with the fleet belonging to private gentlemen amounted to about D. M. Rs. 35,000. That being informed the Morattoes had left Cutway and carried everything away from thence, they thought proper to recall the Ensign and Military they sent thither. That the Nabob still continues there under a very great dilemma, for should he leave the city to go and assist Bellaray against Shumsheer Cawn, the whole body of Morattoes are gathering together, and advancing this way, in order to march into Muxadavad on the Nabob's leaving it. That the forces which were lately at Placey returned to Muxadavad and the Morattoes are near at hand. That a small party of them was at Chunepoor Garden, but did no great damage. That in this situation they hope we will reinforce their garrison as soon as possible and send them up a sufficiency of ammunition, for since what has happened at Cutway the Morattoes may grow less timorous of the Europeans' valour and make an attack upon them. That it being very uncertain whether they may be able to send down any more goods with safety, and the merchants refusing to let them be sorted unless they absolutely agreed to take them, they thought proper to let them alone till they received our directions concerning them. That they, the merchants, hope we will please to order them to be taken (though they are delivered in so late), as they were provided upon account of their last year's contract, and they will be very great sufferers by the Company if they are not, because they cannot dispose of them anywhere else.

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[1] *Buxerry, s.*—A matchlock-man; apparently, used in much the same sense as burkundauze, *q.v.* Now obsolete. The origin is obscure. Buxo is in port, a gun-barrel (German Büchese); which suggests some possible word Buxeiro. There is, however, none such in Blutean, who has on the other hand "Butgeros, an Indian term artillery men, &c.," land quotes from Hist. Orient. iii (7). "Butgeri sunt hi qui quinque tormentis praeficiuntur." This does not throw light. Bajjar, 'thunderbolt,' may have given vague to a word in analogy to Pers. barkandaz, "lightning darter," but we find no such word.—Anglo-Indian Glossary by Colonel Yule and Mr. Burnell.

[2] Chowt or Chout. (s.) Mahr, Chauth, 'one fourth part.' The black mail levied by the Mahrattas from the provincial Governors as compensation for leaving their districts in immunity from plunder. The term is applied to some other exactions of like ratio. *Ibid.*

At the same time we received a letter from Mr. Henery Kellsall, Resident at Ballasore, dated the 13th instant, enclosing charges, general and cash account for January, and advising that the Tappies[1] on the road to Ganjam being grown so exceedingly indolent that he has called them in being convinced that our packets may be forwarded much faster by Cossids,[2] for should they be longer upon the road than is customary he can punish them on their return which is impossible to be done with the Tappies as the pair that arrives there always lays the blame upon those at Cuttack.

This morning we received another letter from Mr. Henery Kellsall, Resident at Ballasore, dated the 18th instant, enclosing invoice of Sannoes[3] laden on the sloop *Andrew* amounting to Ballasore current Rs. 788-15-9.

The 25th instant.—We received a letter from the Worshipful Charles Floyn, Esq., Deputy Governor, &c., Council at Fort St. David, dated the 5th instant. That they are sorry they had it not in their power to send us a supply of treasure last year, but hope we will believe they reserved no more to themselves than was absolutely necessary for the expense of their garrison, which they thought deserved to be maintained at almost any charge, and they have some expectations that the event hereafter will justify their measure; wherefore they cannot help remarking that the concern we expressed to find that no money passes their port is equalled by their surprise that to observe none ever returns from ours, for they must look upon the twenty-five chests of treasure we have sent them as a very slender supply compared with their wants, by which they will be again plunged into the utmost difficulties should any accident detain their outward-bound shipping longer than the month of March; and we may easily judge of the uneasiness of their situation in such circumstances with so large a squadron of King's ships in the road unsupported by credit; that reflecting upon this coolley must awaken our strictest attention to their preservation and safety, wherefor they shall leave it to our judgment how far it would be proper to send them a further supply of twenty-five chests of treasure, though they should not hereafter have occasion for it, in which case we cannot suffer much by their sending it back again recoined. That they must also recommend the Northern Factory to our care, who will be in great want without our assistance as we are utterly incapable of giving them any; and an investment of calicoes from Vizagapatam and Ingeram would certainly be agreeable to the Hon'ble Company, and hope we will excuse them in giving their opinions that those settlements at present in point of trade ought first to be considered. That they will demand from the Commander of the *Bombay Castle* the deficiency of the copper short delivered and advise our Hon'ble Masters thereof; that the *Princess of Wales* arriving on that coast so very late they could not send her to take in the Redwood at Durassapatem, nor could they prevail with any of the country shipping to do it, but will take all opportunities of sending us a quantity, but it cannot be done in time, for the shipping now with us; upon the broadcloth being landed there, the Warehouse-keeper reported several of the bales to be damaged, upon which an order was made for all that appeared to be outwardly damaged to be surveyed, which was done accordingly in the presence of the Captain. That the damaged cloth was sold at outcry and an account of it sent to the Company. That they agree with us that what we found damaged and have been of old, as the outsides appeared very fair there, and the ship that carried them had a very short passage, and enclosed they send us a report on this affair. That the rice and stores not being quite landed from ships *Oxford* and *Exeter*, they cannot advise how they turn out, but will not fail so to do in their next letter. That they will settle the affairs of the arrack designed for their use last year by the *Fort St. George*. That they shall adjust all short deliveries of stores with the Commanders of the ships, as we desire that they may not lay the blame on their concoplys* and boatmen on their arrival at another port. That on the 4th the *Warwick* arrived there and brought them our letter of the 10th ultimo. They hope to despatch her for Europe about the 12th instant, when the Commander shall have the necessary directions given him for his further proceedings. That enclosed is their indent for sundries they are very much in want of, which they desire us to supply them with by the return of the *Colchester*, who will sail from thence in two or three days.

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[1] *Tappauls.*—The word used in Southern India for 'post,' in all the senses in which dawk (*q. v.*) is used in Northern India. Its origin is obscure. C. P. Brown, suggests connexion with the French étape (which is the same originally as the English staple). It is sometimes found at the end of last century written Tappa or tappy. But this seems to have been derived from Telugu Clerks, who sometimes write tappā as a singular of tappālu, taking the latter for a plural (C. P. B.). Wilson appears to give the word a Southern origin. But though its use is confined to the South and West, Mr. Beames assigns to it an Aryan origin: tappā 'post office,' *i.e.*, place where letters are stamped, tappāl 'letter post' (tappā + ālya = "stamping-house") connecting it redically with tāpā 'a coop,' tāpuā 'to tap,' 'flatten,' 'beat down,' tapuk 'a sledge hammer,' tipuā 'to press,' &c. (?)—Anglo-Indian Glossary by Colonel Yule and Mr. Burnell.

[2] *Cossids*—*s.* A courier or running messenger. Arab, *Kasid. Ibid.*

Sannoes.—A piece-good imported from Bengal to England.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE JOHN FORSTER, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. WILLIAM BARWELL.

ADAM DAWSON.

HUMPHRY BELLAMY.

WILLIAM FYTCHE.

Agreed, that we now write to the gentlemen at Cossimbuzar and acknowledge the receipt of their several letters of the 15th, 17th, 18th, 19th, and 21st instant, with the papers therein enclosed. That it was with the utmost concern we heard of the loss of the goods under the charge of Ensign English, whose behaviour, we are convinced, was highly improper and cowardly, and we have treated him accordingly. That we have sent such persons as we thought proper to apply for the Hon'ble Company's effects; and direct that they again acquaint the Nabob hereof that he may not take it amiss, for having been plundered by the Morattoes to so large an amount we were under a necessity of applying to them to get satisfaction for the same, which, if not to be done by fair means, we must try another course. That as they say their merchants have some goods ready which were provided on account of last year's contract, we permit them to take such of them as are proper for our Hon'ble Masters, as we shall have occasion for them for a vessel which we daily expect, and as we hope to have an opportunity to get them down with safety hereafter. That as we are obliged to supply the *Houghton* with some of our military, we cannot spare them any at present, as we judge it improper to weaken our garrison more in these times, as we do not apprehend it will answer any end, to the Morattoes to attack their port. That our Hon'ble Masters having dismissed two gentlemen from this Board and directed their places to be filled up with the next in succession, we have supplied them with Messrs. Eyles and Fytche and direct Mr. Eyles to remain at Cossimbuzar till the chief returns thither.

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* *Concoplys.*—"Conecoply, s., literally account. Mau from Tam. *Kanaka* 'account' or writing' and *Pilai* 'child' or 'person' a Native clerk or writer."—Anglo-Indian Glossary by Colonel Yule and Mr. Burnell.

Fort William, March 1747-48.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE JOHN FORSTER, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. WILLIAN BARWELL.

ADAM DAWSON.

HUMPHRY BELLAMY.

WILLIAM KEMPE.

Yesterday we received a letter from Thomas Feake, Esq., &c., Council at Dacca, dated the 23rd ultimo, advising of their having drawn a bill on us in favour of Cestidass for fifteen hundred (1,500) Arcot rupees, and that the city of Dacca is in the utmost confusion on account of the Darbar having received advices of a large force of Morattoes coming in by the way of Sundrabund, and that they were advanced as near as Sundra Col when first descried by their Hurcarrahs. That as they have not an answer to theirs of the 29th January, they thought proper to entertain such people as the poor circumstances they are in would allow of for the security of their factory.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE JOHN FORSTER, Esq., *President.*

MESSRS. WILLIAM BARWELL.

ADAM DAWSON.

HUMPHRY BELLAMY.

WILLIAM KEMPE.

MR. WILLIAM FYTCHE down the River.

The Dadney[1] merchants of last year having received only 25 per cent. on two Phoids[2] of their contracts, and desiring to have 13 per cent. advanced them in further part thereof in Bullion, and promising not to set the name under the price given to Jugutsett's house.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE JOHN FORSTER, Esq., *President.*

MESSRS. WILLIAM BARWELL.

WADHAM BROOKE.

ADAM DAWSON.

HUMPHRY BELLAMY.

WILLIAM KEMPE.

MR. WILLIAM FYTCHE down the River.

The 8th.—We received a letter from Edward Eyles, Esq., Chief, &c., Council at Cossimbuzar, dated the 3rd instant, advising that Ruedass has sent them word as soon as the Hoolly[1] is over he will bring them a bill on his master's house at Dacca for 50,000 Sicca rupees, requesting us to inform them what Cossimbuzar notes have been discharged here since the 30th April last that the same may be adjusted with their books. That they have confined as many of the merchants who are indebted to the Company as they could meet with in hopes it will shortly prevail with such of them as are able to discharge their debts. That the Nabob decamped the 29th ultimo, and marched about four coss off where he still continues and it's uncertain when he may proceed to Patna. That they hear the main body of the Morattoes remain near Budwan, but there are several straggling parties of them about the country that come often very near them.

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[1] Dadney for Dadny S.H. dādni, an avdance made to a craftman, a weaver, or the like, by one who trades in the goods produced.—Anglo-Indian Glossary by Colonel Yule and Mr. Burnell.

[2] Phoid, probably Fard. A written list or statement, a long slip of writing containing a list; a catalogue.—Wilson's "Glossary of Indian Terms."

Yesterday we received two letters from the gentlemen at Patna, the one duplicate of the 31st of January advising the death of Hazei Hamett, supposed to be by poison; of their Vacqueel Narsing's being confined to his bed in the factory in a very bad way. That the Pattans had plundered the Dutch factory at Futtua of white cloth and other goods to the amount of 65,000 rupees. That Sumsheer Cawn having appointed Hamett Cawn Carachea his Naib Governor of the place, the houses and shops were again opened, but the country round about is in the utmost confusion.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

MESSRS. WILLIAM BARWELL.
ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.

The President indisposed.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the table.

The 19th.—We received a letter from Edward Eyles, Esq., Chief, &c., Council at Cossimbuzar, dated the 14th instant, advising their having paid Coja Mahomed Ferruck forty-nine thousand (49,000) Siccas, the impossibility of their getting a bill on Patna, the Shroffs having absconded on account the extortions of the Nabob, who is now at Comia, about twelve coss from Muxadavad, but cannot prevail on his forces to go on without paying them more money. That upon his hearing the Morattoes had taken Tanner's Fort he had Nawarris Mahomad Cawn to send for their vacqueels and enquire into the reason why the English suffered them to come so near them, adding it would be a very acceptable piece of service to drive them from thence. That there is a report of Meerabibs being expected at Cutway with a considerable force, and a large party of Morattoes being come to Cutba, about five coss from thence. That the reports at Muxadavad are various concerning the King of Hindostan, some only mentioning his lying at the point of death and others affirming his death.[2]

The 24th.—We received a letter from Thomas Feake, Esq., Chief, &c., Council at Dacca, dated the 16th, enclosing charges, general cash accounts, consultations and muster-rolls for the months of January and February. That they have received a bill of exchange from Cossimbuzar on Jugutsett's house for fifty thousand (50,000) Siccas which their Gomastah wants to stop for interest due to them for one year, but they hope to prevail on him to take their note of hand till we send them an ample supply for that use and to pay off their debts. That they have drawn on us the following bills :—

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[1] Hooly s. Hind *hoti* (Skl. *holaka*). The spring festival, held at the approach of the vernal equinox, during the 10 days preceding the full moon of the month *Phalguna*. It is a sort of carnival in honor of Krishna and the milkmaids. Passers-by are chaffed, and pelted with red powder, or drenched with yellow liquids from squirts. Songs, mostly obscene, are sung in praise of krishna, and dances performed round fires. In Bengal the feast is called *Dol Jatra* or "swinging cradle festival."—Anglo-Indian Glossary by Colonel Yule and Mr. Burnell.

[2] Mahomad Shah, the Moghul Emperor, after a reign of more than thirty years during which the Imperial power had steadily grown weaker died in the month of April 1748.

In favour of Neamuthuttuck	for A. Rs.	1,500
In favour of Kissenchundutt	„	1,750
In favour of Luckicundutt	„	750
In favour of Rampersaut Gose	„	500

Yesterday we received a letter from the gentlemen at Cossimbuzar, dated the 21st, advising that Farwarree, on whom the Surat bills were drawn, advised them that he could only pay ten thousand (10,000) rupees about the last of this month out of the note for twenty-six thousand (26,000) Siccas, and desires the remainder to be endorsed off one of the Company's notes to him, and requests our orders thereon. That the Nabob has passed Sigtigully, and Sumsheer Cawn has advanced to meet him so that a battle is daily expected. That the Morattoes are assembling together at Herapore, but it's uncertain whether they may follow the Nabob, or march directly to Muxadavad. That enclosed are cash and treasury accounts for March and February and Military Pay Roll.

Captain Wood, Commander of the *Colchester*, sent in a letter requesting our permission to bring her up to Calcoota.

Agreed to comply with his request, and ordered it to be entered after this Consultation.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE WORSHIPFUL WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ.
MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.

The Hon'ble John Forster, Esq., having departed this life of a fever, and Mr. John Jackson, whom the Hon'ble Company has thought proper to appoint to succeed him, being now at Fort St. David :

Agreed that we now write and advise him that the Government has devolved upon him: and

Agreed that Mr. Barwell do take charge of the Factory balance of cash, Royal Phermaund, Merchants Teeps,* &c., till Mr. Jackson's arrival.

A key of the treasury was delivered to Mr. Dawson.

There being a vacancy at the Board by the death of the late President, and the Hon'ble Company having directed the Council to be filled up by the next in standing, and Mr. Roger Drake being next in succession, he was now admitted to his seat at the Board.

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* Teep.—(Properly Tip H.) A note of hand, a promissory note or bill, a bond, a cheque; besides these meanings, which are common to all the dialects it has special applications in some, as in Mar., taking a list of the number of houses, trees, cattle, &c., preparatory to a tax upon them. Guz., A list, an inventory, a catalogue, a roll or register. Tipu, Tel. A grant or assignment of revenue to a capitalist who has advanced money to the Government.—Wilson's "Glossary of Indian Terms."

Fort William, April 1748.

At a Consultation, present:

The Hon'ble William Barwell, Esq., *President.*

Messrs. Adam Dawson.
Humphry Bellamy.
William Kempe.
William Fytche.
Roger Drake.
Edward Holden Cruttenden.

The Jemindar near Puttah having stopped several boats with English Dusticks,[1] and taken money from them, and disregarding the Phousdar[2] of Houghley's orders to clear them.

Ordered the Jemindar to send Buxerries to clear the boats and bring him up as a prisoner.

Edward English sent in a petition to the Board, which being read:

Ordered it to be entered after this Consultation.

As this man is under confinement by the late President's directions for his misbehaviour, and great losses the Company sustain by his having suffered the Cossimbuzar Fleet to be seized by the Morattoes:

Ordered, therefore, that the officers be directed, both Captains and Lieutenants, to give their opinion in writing, whether this man according to martial discipline should be continued in confinement, or whether any other punishment can be inflicted on him besides what he has already suffered.

To—The Hon'ble William Barwell, Esq., President and Governor, &c., of Fort William.

The petition of Edward English.

Most humbly shewth,—That your petitioner, without any design or intent on his part, having had the misfortune to incur the displeasure of this Hon'ble Board in the late Hon'ble President's time on account of disaster that befell the Cossimbuzar Fleet under your petitioner's (*sic* in original), not having only suffered greatly as well in the losses he himself suffered as in being broke and ever since kept under a strict confinement, but being reduced to the greatest extremity and distress in that in his present unhappy circumstances, he is utterly unable to relieve the distresses of either himself or his unhappy family destitute of all means of support.

Your petitioner humbly implores that your Hon'ble, &c., will take his unfortunate case and circumstances, as likewise that your petitioner's unhappy family, into your tender consideration and alleviate the severity thereof, by ordering your petitioner's releasement, that he may in some way or other endeavour to procure bread for himself and his unhappy family. Your petitioner if with the utmost submission he may so much say, solemnly declaring, that the steps he took in the aforesaid unfortunate affair was for the best, and to extricate to the utmost of his power the fleet under his charge from the difficulties and danger it was then surrounded with, though unhappily therein your petitioner
l a sacrifice to the blackest and basest treachery which in the then situation
s in a manner impossible for your petitioner to avoid; nor would your
er have made any of these proposals for which it seems he has been

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for Dustucks. Pers. *dastak.* A pass or permit.—Anglo-Indian Glossary by Colonel Yule and Mr. Burnell.

Phousdar, &c. s.—Properly a military commander. (Pers. *faug*, a 'military force,' *faujdar*, one holding
s disposal) or a military governor of a district. But in India, an officer of the Moghul Government
with the charge of the police, and jurisdiction in criminal matters. Also used in Bengal, last century
ge.

dar is in charge of several perganas under the Sipah Salar or Viceroy and Commander-in-Chief of
's *Ayun I, 294. Ibid.*

blamed had he had any other alternative then left, but contrarywise would have defended his Hon'ble Master's estate and effects to his last breath, however unavailing such a defence might have proved. Your petitioner therefore once more implores the compassion and consideration of the Honourable Board, for himself and his unhappy family.

And your petitioner, &c.,

EDWARD ENGLISH.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

Mr. Foster having sent to the Morattoes about the Hon'ble Company's raw silk which they plundered at Cutway, and the persons employed by him having received an answer to their address, ordered that they be summoned to attend the Board.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, Esq., *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

Some of our merchants complaining to us that they had goods coming down on their Dadney contracts which were stopped at Hajerahattie by Rajah Annoopnaran, one bale whereof was stolen, and that the Jemindar suspected of this action is gone to Muxadavad.

Agreed, therefore, that we write to the gentlemen at Cossimbuzar to make enquiry for him and demand the goods as belonging to the Company.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.

This morning we received a letter from Edward Eyles, Esq., &c., at Cossimbuzar, under date the 20th of April, advising of their having taken conformable to our orders and prized what silk our merchants had provided on account of their last year's contract to the amount of 49 bales of November Bond, and about sixty Comercolly. That their merchants told them that the troubles in the country coming on so early had prevented their being able to procure the quantity of gurrahs[1] they had agreed for, and that the most they could give them hopes of, by the last of May would not be more than 30 or 40 bales, half whereof are now ready to be delivered into the Cottahs.[2] That the Nabob is got almost to Patna, and the two armies being so near together, a battle between them is daily expected. That Mr. Eyles having material business at Calcutta, requests our permission for going down.

We just now received a letter from Mr. Henery Kellsall, President at Balasore, dated the 10th instant, advising of the three French pilots from Chandernagore in pallankeens, who give out they daily expect a squadron there, and that the *Sybil*, a French ship which touched at Pondercherry, brought the men, of 16 ships being arrived at the Islands, among them three King's ships, and desiring our orders for repairing the Factory before the rains set in, and building a long boat for the use of the Hon'ble Company's sloops.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.

The officers of this garrison, both Captains and Lieutenants, sent in a letter to the Board, which being read, was found to contain their opinion about Edward English, in which they are unanimous that he ought to be continued under confinement till an opportunity offered to send him to Europe.

Ordered their letter to be entered after this Consultation.

To—The HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council of Fort William.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—In consequence of an Order of Council to us subscribed by your Secretary to give our opinions in writing whether Mr. Edward English according to Martial discipline should be continued in confinement, or whether any other punishment should be inflicted on him besides what he has already suffered, we beg leave to offer it as our unanimous opinion that he should be kept under close confinement till an opportunity offers for sending him to Europe, and are with the utmost respect,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,
Your most obedient, humble servants,

ROBERT HAMILTON.
THOMAS FENWICKE.
NATHANIEL JACOBS.
WILLIAM PEARSON.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 19th April 1748.

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[1] Garrah—a coarse sort of cloth.

[2] Cottah, probably Kothie—a granary, a warehouse, or store-room.—Wilson's "Glossary of Indian Terms."

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*
MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.

The persons who received the letters from the Morattoes about the raw silk attending the Board agreeable to the Order of Council, the 19th instant, the letter was now opened and read to us.

Ordered it be entered for this Consultation when it's translated.

Ormichund was now asked if he had received advices from Bowansing, whether he could recover the whole or any part of the Company's goods, to which he replied, that his advices from Bowansing were, that the Morattoes were on a march to Patna, and the people who plundered the silk had sold the greatest part, that perhaps it might be procured for the same price it sold for, which was about five rupees per seer, and he hears the goods are opened and much damaged.

Ordered Ormichund to write another letter to Bowansing to get us what justice he can for the Company.

It being proposed to write to Mr. Wake to address the Sou Rajah to obtain redress from the Morattoes for the raw silk:

Agreed that we write to him accordingly.

Translate of a letter from JOHNUJEE, General of the Morattoes, to ORMICHUND.

Bowansing has arrived with me and acquainted me of the depredations made on the Company's boats. Had I been informed of it before, I should have made strict enquiry among the army about it. But after the boats were plundered, the prisoners that were brought from them, never made use of the Company's name, otherwise I should have stopt all the goods. Now they are dispersed among many and in divers places. However, to oblige you, what steps I have taken, Bowansing will advise you. I am now going to Patna to destroy my enemies and transact some other affairs which has occasioned a delay. However, when I arrive at Boglepoor I will use all my endeavours to recover all your goods.

Fort William, May 1748.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the table.

The Consultation of the 25th ultimo being wrote fair, was now read, approved, and signed.

The 26th ultimo.—We received a letter from Edward Eyles, Esq., &c., Council at Cossimbuzar, dated 23rd April, advising that their vacqueels had brought them news of the Nabob's victory over Shumsheer Cawn, who, with Moredseer Cawn, was killed in battle at Cullodee. That when the Nabob dispatched this news to Nowarris Mahomed Cawn, he was at Bicunpur, and mentions the escape of Syndar Cawn and Buxey Bailee, who retreated with the utmost precipitation as soon as Sumsheer Cawn was cut off. That the vacqueels desired them to remind us of sending proper letters of congratulation to the Nabob and Nowarris Mahomed Cawn on this occasion.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the table.

The Consultation of the 2nd being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

Yesterday we received a letter from Edward Eyles, Esq., &c., Council at Cossimbuzar, dated the 29th April, advising that our merchants' gomastahs[1] at Maulda have complained that some of the Nabob's people had been there and treated them very ill for refusing to comply with their demands for large sums of money, and threatening to plunder their effects in case they stood out. That on receipt of their letter they informed Nowarris Mahomed Cawn and Chaineray thereof, and requested them to write to the Nabob about it, to which they answered that they should be very willing to comply with their request, but apprehended, the Nabob's affairs were in such a state at that time, that their writing to him would avail but little. That they have applied to the Phousdar of Muxadavad about the cloth, and have recovered five pieces of the stolen cloth, and that he has assured them of his best endeavours to get the rest, that they likewise sent them word by the vacqueels that an order was gone for the goods which were on board the same boat to pass without further stoppage.

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[1] *Gomasta, Gomashtah, s.* Hind.—from Pers. *gumashtah,* part "appointed, delegated," a native agent, or factor. In Madras the modern application is to a clerk for vernacular correspondence.—Anglo-Indian Glossary by Colonel Yule and Mr. Barnell.

At a Consultation, present:

The Hon'ble William Barwell, Esq., *President.*
Messrs. Adam Dawson.
Humphry Bellamy.
William Kempe.
William Fytche.
Roger Drake.
Edward Holden Cruttenden.

The Houghley Phousdar demanding the usual annual present due in November last, amounting to current rupees two thousand seven hundred and fifty (rupees 2,750).

Agreed that the President do pay the same out of the cash.

To—The Hon'ble Charles Floyer, Esq., Governor, &c., Council at Fort St. David.

Hon'ble Sir and much esteemed Friends,—As our high superiors at Batavia, according to their letter separately addressed to us, which was brought to Fort St. David by one of your Brigantines and from thence by your goodness forwarded to us last night, have resolved, in consequence of the hostilities that have been committed by the Crown of France upon the territories and places of our sovereign in the Netherlands without declaring war, to repel force by force, and to do that nation all possible damage in these parts by sea and land; and have likewise strenuously commanded us and the Ministers of the Governments and Settlements belonging to our Company not only to break off all correspondence and traffic with that nation, but also to prevent the least help or assistance from being given to them, even in the most indifferent matters; and, on the contrary, to entertain the strictest correspondence with you and your nation as our allies, that the mutual preservation of both requires; and in case of need to afford you all the assistance in our power in order to intimidate our common enemy and ward off the blows which they intend us; we therefore cannot defer your immediate notice hereof, with a respectful assurance that we shall punctually fullfil and obey that order, and to that end have already dispatched the necessary orders to all our subordinate Settlements on this Coast, and hereby most humbly request you will do the same.

We remain with regard,
Hon'ble Sir and much esteemed Friends,
Your most obedient, humble servants,
Galenus Mersen, &c.,
Council.

Negapatam,
The $\frac{28}{17}$th April 1748.

P.S.—You are most friendly requested to forward the enclosed by the first sea conveyance to our Government in Bengal.

At a Consultation, present:

The Hon'ble William Barwell, Esq., *President.*
Messrs. Adam Dawson.
Humphry Bellamy.
William Kempe.
Edward Eyles.
William Fytche.
Roger Drake.
Edward Holden Cruttenden.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the table.

The Consultation of the 16th being wrote fair, was now read, approved, and signed.

This morning we received a letter from the Hon'ble John Huyghens, Esq., Director, &c., Council at Houghley, dated the 27th May, N. S., advising of the receipt of a letter from the Government of Batavia, principally given them an account of the present situation of affairs in Europe, upon which they have deputed two of their Council, *viz.*, Mr. D'Arnaud and Charles Phyl, to advise us of the contents and to let us know what measures they have taken relating thereto.

The Dutch Deputies being present, we desired them to acquaint us with the measures they had taken in consequence of their abovementioned orders; they replied that having received a letter from their superiors to the same purpose as that transmitted to their Chief and Council at Negapatam, the Director and Council immediately issued out orders prohibiting all manner of intercourse between their settlement and that of Chandernagore, and have also given orders to their pilots to be cautious how they trust to colours, and on no account whatever to give any assistance to the French, but this they have done in a secret manner, as they take their letter from Batavia to be wrote with that intent; they have likewise ordered their pilots to lend all the English ships they may find bound inward their utmost assistance. We then asked the Deputies if in case the French should come with any force either by sea or land whether they would assist us and join in order to repel them, to which they answered that it was at present no part of their Commission to enter upon that point. But we might either represent it by writing, or send deputies to the Director and Council in order to consult the best methods to proceed in such case.

Agreed, therefore, that we write to the gentlemen at Houghley accordingly.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

The merchants were now called in and asked what sums they would have affixed to their several names and Sets which they now settled at the Board.

The Sets, being all present at the Board, inform us that last year they dissented to the employing of Tillickchund, Gosseram, Occore, and Otteram, they being of a different caste and consequently they could not do business with them, upon which account they refused Dadney, and, having the same objection to make this year, they propose taking their shares of the Dadney if we should think proper to consent thereto, upon which the question was put whether their proposals should be accepted or not.

When Mr. Cruttenden was of opinion that as the proposal is reasonable it ought to be complied with.

Mr. Drake of the same opinion.

Mr. Fytche of the same.

Mr. Eyles of the same.

Mr. Kempe the same.

Mr. Bellamy is of a different opinion and desires leave to give his reasons in writing to the Board.

Mr. Dawson thinks as those merchants did their business very well last year they ought to be employed this.

The President is of opinion that the Company having recommended the Sets to have the preference in the Dadney, they ought to be employed, both as they are people who have lived long in the place and are entirely under the protection of the English, and, therefore, unless other merchants should make proposals more beneficial and advantageous to the Company, their present request ought to be complied with.

The majority of the Board being of opinion that the proposals of the Sets ought to be accepted, the same was now agreed.

The whole investment not being fully completed by these contracts, and Ormichund offering to take a fifth part of the investment for ready money, and as it is very likely we shall have a great tonnage on hand, and it being highly necessary for the Company's interest to guard against any deficiencies or contingencies that may happen,

Agreed to accept his proposal and to meet again on Monday next to settle the prices of the goods and see what quantity of gurrahs we may get.

Gopeenaut Set and Radachurn Metre proposing to provide ready money goods on the same terms as Ormichund to the amount as follows, *viz* :—

Gopinaut Set	Rs. 1,00,000
Radachurn Metre	„ 50,000

Agreed to accept their proposals.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.

HUMPHRY BELLAMY.

WILLIAM KEMPE.

EDWARD EYLES.

WILLIAM FYTCHE.

ROGER DRAKE.

EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the table.

The Consultation of the 23rd being wrote fair, was now read, approved, and signed.

The 23rd instant.—We received a letter from George Pattle, Esq., &c., gentleman at Patna, dated the 7th instant, advising of the (*sic* in original) about a month ago on certain advices, that Mahmut Jung, the Bengal Subah, approached with his army within two or three days of Patna. Sumsheer Cawn marched his army about 16 miles below the city and there waited to give him battle, leaving his Dewan behind him, supported by a force of two or three thousand men, to continue his oppressions, who demanded a third sum from the three European nations :—from the Dutch ten thousand (10,000) rupees :—but from them, knowing they had little or no money, only two thousand five hundred rupees, which they refused paying and sent him word if he wanted any more money from them he must take it by force. That the Nabob has gained a very complete victory over Sumsheer Cawn, killing him and almost every head officer of his, and made a great slaughter of his men; and two days after entered the city and restored peace and security to them all. That they have received certain advice of the death of Mahmut Jung, the late king, who is peaceably succeeded by his son, and new Siccas are to be coined at their mint on the occasion.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

The 28th.—We received a letter from the Hon'ble John Huyghens, Esq., Director, &c., Council at Houghley, dated the 6th June, N. S., in answer to ours of the 18th May, N.S., which they have duly received, and have the pleasure to say that in case the French should design our place, they will be ready to help and assist us with everything that will not be absolutely necessary for the defence of their fort and the effects of their Company; but to assist us with any part of their Military it is not in their power at present, nor will it be till they are reinforced from Batavia; for should the French attack us, they will not be without some apprehension of their settlement likewise, and their weak garrison in such case will hardly be sufficient to defend their fort. That the bill of exchange we sent them in favour of their Chief at Patna for thirty-thousand (30,000) Siccas has been duly honored, and desire that this may be deemed a sufficient receipt for the money.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

Agreed that we now write to the Hon'ble William Wake, Esq., Governor, &c., Council at Bombay, and enclose them copies of what we wrote them under date the 18th ultimo and 2nd instant, and inform them that since writing those letters we have received advices from the Coast that the *Medway's* Prize, Captain Holmes, has taken the *St. Louis* from Bussorah under Portuguese colours, and she is esteemed a very rich ship. That Hon'ble Company's ships, the *Prince William* and *True Briton,* are arrived here, and that by our advices from Patna we understand the Nabob has gained a complete victory over the Patans, Sumsheer Cawn, together with many of his officers being cut off.

Agreed that we write to the gentlemen at Patna to forward the foregoing to the Governor and Council at Bombay, and as we are apprehensive that some of our letters to them may have miscarried through the troubles in the country, that we enclose them copies thereof, in which they will see our intentions, and direct them to comply as soon as possible therewith.

To—The HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council of Fort William.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—Coja Evannes at Pondicherry having advised that he had laden on board ship *St. Louis* belonging to the Portuguese then riding at Sadrasspatnam, Captain Antonis D'Silva, Master, one chest containing eight thousand rupees and one chest containing two thousand rupees for account of Coja Minas D'Saak, deceased.

On the arrival of said ship we, as trustees to the deceased, demanded the money of Captain Silva, who answered it was true he had received the sum mentioned on board his ship, but meeting with some of his Britannic Majesty's Squadron in his way down to Bengal, they had seized and taken out of his ship the money, supposing it to be the property of the French, for which he had an acknowledgment under the hands of the Hon'ble Lord Thomas Bertie and William Holmes, Commanders of two of His Majesty's ships, signed on board the *Winchelsea* and dated the 7th August 1747.

We immediately made application to the Hon'ble John Forster, Esq., late Governor, who wrote to Commodore Griffin concerning the affair, who, as we are informed, has wrote for answer that we must give proofs of the said 10,000 rupees being the property of Coja Minas which we are ready to lay before your Honors whenever we shall be permitted, and humbly hope your Honors, &c., will then use your influence that the said money may be restored.

We are with profound respect,
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,
Your most obedient, humble servants,
D'ALLUMPLAD.
TENEELDUX.

Calcutta,
The 22nd May 1748.

Fort William, June 1748.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES,
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

This morning we received a letter from George Pattle, Esq., &c., gentleman at Patna, dated the 18th ultimo, setting forth that the money they paid was not to a regular Government, but to a rebel, at the head of 50,000 men who had been guilty of the most unpardonable villainics in the murder of the Subah and the plundering the city, and to such they were compelled to pay those sums for the ransom of the factory which otherwise would have suffered the same fate with the city. That this was the use to the Company's affairs which they drew from the payment of those sums. That they paid the least, escaped the best of the three European nations, some of the French gentlemen having assured them that they were forced to pay 15,000 rupees upon that occasion, which was considerably more than they paid, and by the Dutch Vacqueels, his report they paid more than double that sum besides the heavy loss they suffered on their Futtua factory being plundered. That we misapprehended what they wrote about the Dutchmen wanting to take Ormichund's Petre, for they interfered in no contract whatever. That the Dutch Chief, fond of his good bargain, asked them to take their share of it and to pay the money immediately, to which they replied that they must refer it to the gentlemen at Houghley and us; but as that offer of Ormichund's came to nothing, they need trouble us no more concerning it. That the troubles have rendered it impossible for them to sell any kind of goods as yet, but hope they shall before they leave the place, which cannot be till the river is open, for which purpose they are providing boats, but should they be unable to sell anything, they shall be at a loss how to discharge the notes standing out against them amongst the Shroffs to the amount of fifteen thousand (15,000) rupees, as also for money to defray the expenses occasioned by their removal. They therefore hope we will find means to supply them with twenty-five thousand (25,000) rupees; and if there should be any overplus, they will pay it to the Dutch agreeable to our directions.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

The 10th instant.—We received a letter from George Pattle, Esq., &c., Council at Patna, dated the 30th May, advising that during Mr. Pattle's absence at Chuprah, to which place he went to take the Company's copper out of the well into which it was thrown to prevent its being plundered by a party of Patans who were marching up thither in the late troubles, the Dutch Chief came to their factory with new proposals for purchasing Ormichund's saltpetre, which he made to Messrs. Watts, Gordon, and Bailie; but they were such extravagant terms as those gentlemen could not agree to, and refer us for what passed thereon to their enclosed consultations which they submit to such directions as we shall give on this occasion.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

The President lays before the Board a letter which he just now received from Commodore Griffin, dated the 10th June, and another from Captain Hyde Parker, Commander of His Majesty's ship the *Lively,* dated Balasore Road, the 21st instant, advising of a French squadron having appeared off Negapatam the 9th of the month.

We now sent for the Commandant, the Master Attendant, Gunner, and Europe Captains, and advised them of the news we just now received, and directed them to hold themselves in readiness in their several districts in case of our being attacked, and gave orders to the Europe Captains to bring their ships up to town. They having before given it as their opinion in case of the enemies' arrival that it was the most proper station for them.

Agreed also that we write to the gentlemen at Houghley and advise them hereof, and desire them to be in readiness, in case of necessity, to assist us to the utmost of their power.

Fort William, July 1748.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.

HUMPHRY BELLAMY.

WILLIAM KEMPE.

WILLIAM FYTCHE.

ROGER DRAKE.

EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

The next day we received another letter from the Hon'ble John Huyghins, Esq., Director, &c., Council at Houghley, dated the 9th instant, N. S., acknowledging the receipt of ours of the 27th ultimo, in consequence whereof they have given the necessary orders to bring their Company's ship up to Baranagore, to be unloaded, from whence they will order her down to Calcutta to assist us against the French in case of their attacking this place, and for this purpose they will likewise order all their expected Company's ships to be brought to Baranagore as they come into the river, but on condition that we give them sufficient assurances that we neither will take into our service or grant refuge to any of the sailors or others belonging to the ship which may be employed in our assistance, but to deliver them up immediately. That they desire to know in what manner they may expect to be assisted by us in case the French should undertake any hostility against their place.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.

HUMPHRY BELLAMY.

WILLIAM KEMPE.

EDWARD EYLES.

WILLIAM FYTCHE.

ROGER DRAKE.

EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

Messrs. Bellamy and Drake being returned from Houghley delivered us a letter from the Hon'ble John Huyghins, Esq., Director, &c., Council there, dated the 22nd July, N. S., acknowledging the receipt of ours of the 4th instant, importing that as they have already given orders for all their Company's ships to be brought up to Baranagore as they come into the river, that they may be sent to Calcutta in case of necessity to our assistance, hoping that neither the Governor and Council nor any particular gentleman in Calcutta will admit of any of the Military or seafaring people belonging to their ships entering into our service, and should be glad that we would publish this to the inhabitants of this town; and in such case they would sign an agreement, for certain years or during the present year, for delivering up the deserters on both sides, with such clauses and conditions as may be thought proper and necessary. That the assistance we may lend them in case of need ought, in their opinion, to consist of such number of people furnished with the necessary ammunition and artillery as shall be requisite to prevent those of Chandernagore from any attempts against their fort, and which Messrs. Bellamy and Drake are sensible of. That they desire us to let them know as soon as possible whether we choose to partake of Deepchund's Petre, and in such case to assist them with the necessary money to pay for it, and proceed in procuring it. But if we don't approve of the purchase, they will take the Petre on their Hon'ble Masters'

Account. They also take the liberty to reiterate their instances of the 11th May and 25th June concerning the delivery of the refining coppers unto their gentlemen at Patna, as well as concerning an order to our gentlemen there, to receive our proportion of Petre to which they have not been as yet favoured with an answer.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

Agreed that we address our Hon'ble Masters and advise them of the death of John Forster, Esq., our late President, and John Jackson, Esq., who was ordered to succeed him, by which means the Government has devolved on Mr. Barwell, who hopes for their Honours' favour. That we had only about two hundred and fifty thousand (2,50,000) rupees in the treasury in the month of May to begin their investment with, however, after canvassing with the merchants for fifteen or twenty days, we have entered into a contract with them, on dadney and ready money goods, for near thirty lacs of rupees of which we hope that the best part will come in, and had we been supplied with a further sum of money, we should not doubt of getting in the whole. That we have sent eight chests of bullion to Dacca and six to Jugdea, but have not been able to supply Cossimbuzar. That our debts remain much the same when we wrote them last. That their Honors' ships *Prince William* and *True Briton* are safely imported here, and their *Snow*, the *Swallow* arrived here from Vizagapatam this day, but brought no letter from the gentlemen at Fort St. David. That the *Colchester* and *East Court*, two of their Honors' last years' ships, remain likewise here.

Agreed that we write to Mr. Henery Kellsall, Chief at Balasore, and acknowledge the receipt of his letters of the 10th instant, with the Charges General therein enclosed, and direct him to forward the accompanying packet for Fort St. David with the utmost expedition.

Fort William, August 1748.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

Yesterday by the *Griffin*, a country ship, we received a letter from the Hon'ble Charles Floyer, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council at Fort St. David, dated the 10th June, wherein they write that they doubt not long before this the *Lively* must have arrived with us by whom we may have been acquainted with their reasons for being so long silent, and not having sent us any treasure, that they have now a quantity coined into rupees which they will forward to us by some of the Hon'ble Company's ships as soon as they are informed of everything being safe here, and that the French fleet is not come this way, for as yet they have had no further account of them. That on the 17th May at night His Majesty's squadron being sailed to the northward in search of the enemy they had a visit of a party consisting of about two thousand men from Pondicherry, who about a quarter past nine made an attack upon Cuddalore. But they, having before received intelligence of their intention, took care to strengthen that place with a detachment and gave them so warm a reception that before ten they thought proper to retire with the loss of about thirty Europeans and fifty sepoys, besides a great number that deserted, and others that were wounded, and that not one of their men received the least damage. That of the Company's ships designed for the Coast this year are arrived the *Lapwing*, *Scarborough*, *Duke of Dorset*, *Wager*, and *Hardwike*, the latter having been at the Cape, which place she left the 11th April, and Admiral Boscaween there. Being in great want of the sundries indented by the *Colchester*, they request us to despatch her to them as soon as possible. As by the foregoing letter from St. David we have reason to imagine the coast is clear, and as the gentlemen there write pressingly to have their indent per *Colchester* complied with.

We now sent for Captain Wood, and ordered him to get his ship in readiness with all expedition.

TO—THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ.

SIR,—By a letter from Mr. Gwire of the 15th instant I am made acquainted that it is your request and the Council's to discharge the eleven men I have enlisted from the *Swallow Snow*. I am sorry, Sir, any occasion should happen in which I cannot, consistently with my duty to His Majesty's service, comply with your desire. I am now forty men deficient of my complement. In these circumstances you will easily conceive I have no right to refuse any who offer themselves volunteers, or to deny the protection of His Majesty's colours to those who complain of the injurious treatment of their officers. I am persuaded from your justice, you will be satisfied with these reasons for any helping of them, and will believe me to be,

SIR,
Your most obedient humble servant,
HYDE PARKER.

CALCUTTA,
The 18th August 1748.

Fort William, September 1748.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. GEORGE PATTLE.
ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

By the *Danbury*, one of our country ships which imported here the 12th instant from the Coast, we received a letter from the Hon'ble Charles Floyer, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council at Fort St. David, dated the 17th ultimo, expressing their surprise at not having heard from us since the 17th March per *Pryall Snow*, as we must be sensible of what consequence frequent advices are in these precarious times. That they have the satisfaction to acquaint us of the safe arrival there of Admiral Boscaween with all the fleet both of King's and Company's ships. That he is marched out with all the forces in order to besiege Pondicherry, and the ships have fallen down thither also. That he has attacked a small fort a little to the southward of Pondicherry named Araocopong, and they hope to hear shortly that he is master of it. That Admiral Griffin left that place in the *Princess Mary* with the *Medway*, *Preston*, and *Pearl*, the 16th and is gone to Trincomalay to repair those ships for his homeward-bound passage. As soon as they have advice of the enemy's not having been with us, they shall despatch to us some of our Hon'ble Masters' ships with a supply of rupees which they are now coining out of the bullion lately received. That on the 16th, our Hon'ble Masters ship *Oxford* imported there from Batavia.

By the *Winchelsea*, which imported here the same day, we received another letter from the gentlemen at St. David, dated the 22nd ultimo, importing that since their last having received advice from Vizagapatam, that by intelligence from Balasore there had been no French ships there, they now despatch the *Exeter* and *Winchelsea*, two of the Company's ships, with 75 chests of rupees as per invoice and bill of lading enclosed. That the former is ordered for Vizagapatam to carry a supply of money for the Northern Settlements, and the latter is ordered first to Durassapatam for Redwood and is afterwards to touch at Vizagapatam, where they have ordered the Chief and Council to send down to us what cloth they may have ready cured. That they desire us to secure 16,000 bags of rice and 5,000 bags of wheat, ready to be sent them on the Company's ships in December or early in January, as they believe we shall have some sent us for that purpose. That they will by the other ships send us a further supply of rupees. That they have sent us three different Europe packets, by the ships *Medway*, *Prize*, *Essex and William.* That they have reason to believe the French ships are gone to the islands. That the *Oxford* left the west coast the 11th April, when all was well there. That enclosed is an extract of their last general letter, being a complaint against Captain Rannie for non-performance of a contract made with the Deputy Governor and Council there, as also of an exorbitant bill of charge for the passage of twenty-two lascars from hence, where they request us to call him to an account for such proceeding. That by a fortunate shell falling upon the enemy's magazine at Asaocopong great part of the fort blew up, and the English were in possession thereof.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. GEORGE PATTLE.

ADAM DAWSON.

HUMPHRY BELLAMY.

WILLIAM KEMPE.

EDWARD EYLES.

WILLIAM FYTCHE.

ROGER DRAKE.

EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

His Majesty's ship *Lively* being under despatch to the Coast.

Agreed that we write to the gentlemen at St. David by her and acknowledge the receipt of their favours of the 17th and 22nd ultimo. That we shall provide the packing stuff agreeable to their indent, and have given notice that we are ready to receive musters of wheat and rice they write for, in order to get the same in readiness for December shipping. That the *Exeter*, we hear, is passed Ingellee, and we expect her up in a few days. That on Captain Rannie's arrival here, we shall enquire into the complaint alleged against him, and endeavour to procure justice to our Hon'ble Masters; that we are very sensible that early advices in these precarious times are very necessary, but it is not worth while to put the Company to the expense of cossid-hire when we have nothing to advise.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. GEORGE PATTLE.

ADAM DAWSON.

HUMPHRY BELLAMY.

WILLIAM KEMPE.

EDWARD EYLES.

WILLIAM FYTCHE.

ROGER DRAKE.

EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

This morning we received another letter from the Director and Council at Houghly, under date the 6th October, N. S., advising that a boat which was ordered down to bring up three sick sailors from one of their ships which lay off Fulta, was attacked the 30th instant, N. S., just below Calcutta, by armed people from an English sloop which lay at anchor there. That they took away the three sailors, one of which is called George Jansen, a Dutchman-born, having wounded a manjee and a peon, so that the latter fell overboard and in all appearance drowned, and the former died there of his wounds; and desire that we will give the Netherlands Company, whose colours has been scandalized by the Violence Committee, a due satisfaction (which they hereby demand) by ordering the malefactors to be punished in a most severe manner, that others may be terrified and constrained from undertaking the like, or any other violence against their boats, obliging them therewith to put such means in practice as shall be necessary for the safety of the boats and the Company's servants who may go and come on them. That they also demand of us to deliver them, the aforesaid Jansen as well as another sailor called Hurmanus Hordonk, who deserted the 25th ultimo, from their ship *Cost Capelle*, and is at present in our Military.

Fort William, October 1748.

To—The HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, Esq., President, &c., Council.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—Being acquainted by my officers on board of the death of my boatswain, occasioned, as they say, by cruel usage from some of my seamen who beat and ill-used him in such manner that he is dead of his wounds, and lays the cause of his death to their charge, being apprehensive that the said seamen will fly from justice or attempt some violence, I therefore beg I may have an order for a proper guard to be sent down for the defenders to bring them up to answer the crimes laid to their charge.

I am with the greatest respect,
HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
CHRIS: BARON.

CALCUTTA,
The 12th October 1748.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. GEORGE PATTLE.
ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

MESSRS. KEMPE and DRAKE out of town.

The seamen of the *Winchelsea*, supposed to have murdered the boatswain, being brought up under a guard in consequence of the Captain's request, and Captain Baron being present, we now took into consideration how to proceed in regard to those people, and the Captain esteeming it improper to receive them on board his ship in irons in order to be tried in Europe as they may encourage the rest of his men to mutiny, and the most proper method that appears to him is to send them on board His Majesty's ships as prisoners.

Ordered the Secretary to wait on the Commanders of King's ships to know if they are willing to receive them on board.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. GEORGE PATTLE.
ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

The Secretary acquainting the Board that Captain Wilson, Commander of His Majesty's ship *Apollo*, would receive on board the prisoners reported to be guilty of the murder of the boatswain of the *Winchelsea* when his ship was ready to sail, but desired us to keep them under confinement till that time, as also that we might take the depositions of the evidences against them and deliver them to him.

We now sent for the Clerk of the Peace, and took the depositions on oath of Messrs. John Quin and William Jerberry, second and fourth mates, Mr. William Richardson, Surgeon Mate, as likewise of Edward Noke and William Bower, mariners.

Ordered the same to be delivered Captain Wilson, and the prisoners to be confined in the jail under a strong guard.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President*.

MESSRS. GEORGE PATTLE.
ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

The 28th instant.—We received a letter from the Hon'ble John Huyghens, Esq., Director, &c., Council at Houghley, dated the 5th November, N. S., enclosing invoice and account current of the Petre delivered to Mr. Court, the balance whereof in favour of their Company being Sicca rupees eight thousand six hundred and twenty seven (8,627), they desire us to send them in new Siccas of the first year's reign of the present King. That as the time to set about a new provision is over, they desire our advice how it may be set on foot to the best advantage of both our Companies, and consequently that we send them the needful money in seasonable times that the business may be carried on, for the want of it will surely occasion many inconveniences. That they are again to insist in the most pressing manner on our punishing those malefactors and all their accomplices mentioned in the letter of the 6th October, N. S., in the most severe manner; and that we deliver them, the Dutchmen, whom they forced out of the boat, together with the other that deserted from Barnagore in October, and who, contrary to our promise of the 4th July last, has been taken into our Military service, declaring hereby that all misfortune and ill consequences which may result from our refusal to render the Netherland Company a due satisfaction concerning the sensible affront put upon them will fall to our charge, they being entirely justifiable as having done their best endeavours to prevent the same.

Fort William, November 1748.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*
MESSRS. GEORGE PATTLE.
ADAM DAWSON,
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

We just now received a letter from the Hon'ble Mr. Wake, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council at Bombay, bearing date the 19th August, advising that it was with great concern they received our advices of the Morattoes having plundered our Cossim fleet to so great an amount, and what adds to it is they cannot give us hopes of obtaining any redress from Sou Rajah with whom they had little or no correspondence, Badgerowes' Dominions laying between and bordering upon them, and with whom they are upon very friendly terms. That he is indeed tributary to the Sou Rajah, and application might be made that way if they were upon good terms which they are not, the Sou Rajah being very jealous of his power, but they are seeking out the most proper means how to apply to the Rajah, and none shall be unattempted that bears the least shadow of obtaining any redress. That in all the advices they have received from the Hon'ble Company for several years past, they are strictly enjoined to send us all their surplus treasure which they have duly complied with, and we may rest assured they shall continue to do so. That on the 8th August they directed their gentlemen at Surat to remit us all they could possibly spare which they doubt not is complied with if good bills were procurable. By the last letters lately received from the Company by a vessel from Mocha, where their ship *Essex* arrived the 9th July it appears probable they shall be enabled to send a further supply by their own ship *Dolphin*, whose arrival they daily expect, and a loading of pepper and cotton will happen according to the time of her arrival. That from the tonnage they may expect this season, they judge, they shall have about 12,000 tons of pepper on the coast to spare for such ships as may be thought proper to be sent from hence and Fort St. David, and they have requested of the Resident and Council there to acquaint us, for our guidance, what tonnage they intend to Tellicherry.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, *President.*
MESSRS. GEORGE PATTLE.
ADAM DAWSON,
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

The Book of the Standing Orders lying on the table.

To—THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., President and Governor, &c., Council of Fort William.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—Pursuant to your orders of the 14th November to survey and sound the river and to make report thereof, I appointed the

Mermaid bound to Calcutta and *Belvedera* sloops with Messrs. Aston, Portman, Smith, and Penatz to go with me upon this occasion, and proceeded as follows:—

17th.—In the morning weighed from Calcutta, and sounding all the way down to Tulla anchored there for the night.

18th.—Weighed and sounded on the back of Tulla Sand and from thence all the way down to Rogues River, where we anchored.

19th.—In the morning weighed and ran down to Channel Creek and cross the E. by W. Channel, sounding all the way, from whence seeing two ships at an anchor at Jugely made the best of our way down to them. Found one to be the Honourable Company's ship *Lapwing,* and the *Success Galley.* As neither of them had pilots, put one of my assistants on board each, after which that same evening worked up to Kidgeree with the *Mermaid* and *Calcutta* sloops.

20th.—Weighed and worked back again over the E. and W. Channel and up to Rogues River in company with Sd. sloops.

21st.—In the morning weighed and worked up to Tulla in company as above; here met the *Grampus* sloop with William Brags, Pilot, who I ordered to accompany me to assist in sounding in the room of George Portman, Pilot, who had charge of the *Lapwing.*

22nd.—Weighed and sounded the channel of Tulla and over the James and Mary Sand, after which anchored in the narrows, but weighed in the night and run down to Rogues River, where anchored again.

23rd.—Weighed and from thence sounded the E. and W. Channel again being near low water and down Kidgeree, where anchored for the night.

24th.—In the morning weighed and sounded all the new channel at Concolly, where met the flood, anchored at high water, weighed again, and sounded all the way down to Barebulla head, which being as far as necessary from hence returned with the pilots.

Remarks.—By the most accurate remarks I could make from the above proceedings, and comparing with my assistants, I find no sensible alteration in the river since the last survey. Concolly, only excepted, where is a good navigable channel opened within the buoy of the flat of the shore preferable either to the outward channel, commonly called the new channel or the old channel of Concolly, without the buoy the shoal water going through not exceeding a short mile, which is about 15 feet at low water. Before there is water enough to anchor with a ship of draft, it is proper to give the buoy a good berth without. There is a buoy wanting to the shore; but as we had none in readiness, I imagine the Dutch will supply that defect.

The E. and W. Channel is much the same as last year. I do not think it safe crossing over upon an ebb-tide with a ship above 16 feet draft. For ships above that draft it is necessary they should wait a leading wind to carry them over the shoal part of the flat before the water is anything fallen.

I am, &c.,
HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,
Your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN RANSON.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 30th November 1748.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. GEORGE PATTLE.
ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

To—The HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, Esq., Governor and President, &c., Council of Fort William.

GENTLEMEN,—The supply of Rs. 50,000, which you have already granted for the use of His Majesty's squadron under the command of the Hon'ble Admiral Boscaween, is so very inconsiderable for the service it is designed, that I find myself under a necessity of addressing you again in hopes that you will grant me a further supply of fifty thousand rupees, for it will greatly distress the squadron in case it is refused, and, for my own satisfaction, I must desire you will give me your answer in writing.

I am,
GENTLEMEN,
Yours most obedient, humble servant,

CALCUTTA,
The 5th December 1748.
ALEXANDER MURRAY.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. GEORGE PATTLE.
ADAM DAWSON.
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

Mr. Alexander Murray sent in another letter to the Board desiring us either to grant him the sum he before demanded or give him our reasons in writing under our hands for our refusal to justify his conduct to the Admiral who will not think an answer from the Secretary satisfactory when the address was to the Board.

Ordered Mr. Murray's letter to lay on the table, &c.

Ordered the running treasury and cash accounts to be brought up and laid before us next Thursday, that we may see how far we shall be able to comply with those requests.

WILLIAM BARWELL.
GEO. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
W. FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

Fort William, 12th December 1748.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, *President.*

MESSRS. GEORGE PATTLE.
ADAM DAWSON,
HUMPHRY BELLAMY.
WILLIAM KEMPE.
EDWARD EYLES.
WILLIAM FYTCHE.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

To—The HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, Esq., President and Governor of Fort William, &c. Council.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—Last night a great number of seamen belonging to the Company's ships assembled together in a tumultuous manner ashore, headed by the boatswain of the *Lapwing* threatening to destroy His Majesty's subjects under my command, to cut the ship adrift and set her on fire, upon which I sent for a guard to protect the people then ashore, which was refused. Two of my officers who were repairing on board, were met by them, but beaten and so ill-treated that their lives are despaired of. I therefore demand immediate satisfaction for the great insult offered His Majesty's ships and subjects.

I am,
GENTLEMEN,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
ROBERT WILSON.

Apollo, AT CALCUTTA,
The 12th December 1748.

Exd.—P. K. B.

Bengal Public Consultations, 1749.

Fort William, 3rd January 1748-49.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
R. DRAKE.
E. EYLES.
W. FYTCHE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

This morning we received a letter from the Hon'ble John Hughens, Director, &c., Council at Houghly, dated 13th instant (N. S.), by the hands of Messrs. Brisden and Pyle, two gentlemen of this Council, advising that the French at Chandernagore have by force of arms taken possession of their Company's garden, whereby they have broke the neutrality of the Ganges. They therefore thought proper to inform us of the whole of this affair by these gentlemen that we might act accordingly.

These gentlemen informing us that the Director had addressed the Nabob thereon—

Agreed, that the President do mention it in his Arzdaz[1] to the Nabob and acquaint him of the neutrality being broke by the French, and as the Dutch are our allies, from their acting in that manner with them, we have reason to apprehend they would do the same by us when in their power.

Agreed, that we likewise write to the gentlemen of Houghly to advise them of the steps that were taken in this affair, and that we shall always be ready to enter into any measures they may judge necessary, as we shall esteem any act of violence committed by the French here to affect equally both nations.

Agreed, also to write to the gentlemen at Cossimbuzar to enclose the President's Arzdaz to the Nabob, and to direct them to assure the Setts that we shall do all we can to keep up a fair correspondence with them by doing all that is in our power to serve them.

W. BARWELL.
G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
W. FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

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[1] Arzdaz—properly Arzdasht—a memorial.—Anglo-Indian Glossary by Colonel Yule and Mr. Burnell.

108975

Fort William, 9th January 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

The 5th instant.—We received a letter from the Worshipful Wadham Brooke, Esq., Chief, &c., Council at Cossimbuzar, dated the 2nd, advising that a Chubdar [1] from the Nabob came to their Factory with a Perwannah for the Hon'ble President copy whereof is enclosed, with an inventory of the cargoes of the two ships of which restitution is required, not only in regard to them, but of things of value belonging to the Nabob. That this Perwannah probably may be sent to stop the clamours of the Armenians, for it is thought upon the present exigency of affairs, that the Nabob will not pursue violent measures, but that he may be kept in temper upon pretty easy terms, at least till a more favourable opportunity offers. That he has heard of a fine Arab horse that is to be disposed of in Calcutta, which, it is believed, will be very acceptable to him. That they have pressing demands made on them for an annual present of 3,600 Siccas to Hodjee [2] that used to be given him on account of the sugar aurungs,[3] which, though it does not concern the Company, must be complied with before they expect a currency to business.

W. BARWELL.
G. PATTLE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

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[1] Chubdar—properly Chobdar—a stick-bearer, a frequent attendant of Indian Nobles, and in former days of Anglo-Indian officials of rank. They are still a part of the state of the Viceroy, Governors, and Judges of the High Courts. The *Chobdar* carries a staff overlaid with silver.—Anglo-Indian Glossary by Colonel Yule and Mr. Burnell.

[2] Hodjee—properly Haji—a Muhammadan who has performed a pilgrimage.—Wilson's "Glossary of Indian Terms."

[3] Aurungs—a place where goods are manufactured, a depôt for such goods. During the Company's trading days this term was applied to their factories for the purchase on advance of native piece-goods, &c.—Anglo-Indian Glossary by Colonel Yule and Mr. Burnell.

Fort William, 11th January 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

MR. EDWARD EYLES, Zemindar, acquaints the Board that the wharf on the road to Sootanelly Bazar is washed away by the river, and that the revenues of that market suffer great prejudice therefrom.

Agree, that it be rebuilt, and

Ordered him to tax the merchants who live thereabout in proportion to their share of the ground.

W. BARWELL.
A. DAWSON.
W. KEMPE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

Fort William, January 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE W. BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

Translate of the Nabob's Perwannah to GOVERNOR BARWELL, received the 9th January 1749.

The Syads, Moghuls, Armenians, &c., Merchants of Houghly, have complained that laaks of goods and treasure with their ships you have seized and plundered, and I am informed from foreign parts that ships bound to Houghly you seize on under pretence of their belonging to the French. The ship belonging to Antony with laaks on board from Mocha, and several curiosities sent me by the Sheriffe of that place on that ship, you have also seized and plundered. These merchants are the kingdom's benefactors; their imports and exports are an advantage to all men, and their complaints are so grievous that I cannot forbear any longer giving ear to them.

As you were not permitted to commit piracies, therefore I now write you that on receipt of this, you deliver up all the merchants' goods and effects to them, as also what appertains unto me, otherwise you may be assured a due chastisement in such manner as you least expect.

A translate of GOVERNOR BARWELL's answer to the Nabob's Perwannah.

Your Excellency's Perwannah I have received acquainting me that the Syads, Moghuls, and Armenians, merchants of Houghly, have complained that we have seized and plundered laaks of goods and treasure on their ships with the curiosities sent you by the Sheriffe of Mocha on Antony's ship, directing the goods and ships belonging to them, with what appertains to Your Excellency, be immediately returned, to which I beg leave to reply: These actions were not done by me nor any servants of the Company; nor is it their business. Commerce is what we pursue, which brings into your country from Europe treasure and enriches the kingdom, taking nothing more from hence than the produce of the earth. This is our sole employment. I have before addressed Your Excellency very particular on this matter, and now repeat it, that the English and French Kings being at war have both sent from Europe ships of larger force, under the command of noble Generals, who seized on all ships that fall in their way belonging to each other's nation, and search every ship with foreign colors and passes in order to detect the common deceits of merchants to carry on their trade, and where any detection of this kind is made, the ships become prizes by law. This practice, I am informed, these merchants have been detected in by their own books found on board the ships so seized. Your Excellency will therefore please to observe by their own bad conduct they have brought the evil on themselves and now endeavour to cast the scandal on us.

I am a servant of the Company's. The Company are subject to one King. It does not become me to interfere with what concerns His Majesty, nor will any letter or order to any of his Generals or Officers be of any significancy; this I have no reason to mention, only to satisfy Your Excellency and to invalidate the aspertions cast on me by those people. However, I have forwarded a copy of your perwannah to the General of the ships of war, and what is necessary and proper on the occasion. When an answer returns, I will address you thereon. It is now the latter end of the monsoon, and as by the base insinuations of those people all the Company's Factories are shut up, and their goods stopt on their way down, the Company's ships will be detained and not able to proceed to Europe, and a vast loss arise on the goods so detained by many accidents, but such is the nature of their losses as admits of no contention. I therefore humbly hope Your Excellency will do me justice.

Fort William, 23rd January 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

This morning we received a letter from Thomas Freake, Esq., Chief, &c., Council at Dacca, dated 16th instant, acknowledging the receipt of the broadcloths and perpets as also three pieces of superfine, and three pieces of fine Allibatties sent them for inspection; we having taken notice that there was not the difference of Rs. 10 between those two sortments which they have examined; and doubt not but we on examination will find that the fine Allibatties may appear in the outward fold near as good as the superfine. Yet as they are Cuttall goods, we will find them fall short very considerably in the inward folds, which is not the case of the superfine, they holding their goodness pretty equal throughout, besides there is the difference of 150 threads between the superfine and fine; that the seer hand counaes? are agreeable to their musters and instructions in their lists of investment, and the Nainsooks* we will find are four annas per piece cheaper than any sent last year except seventeen pieces that went at the close of the season. That Juggat Setts Gomastah had demanded the payment of what due from the Company to his master there in the strongest terms, the whole amounting to Rs. 1,03,860 declaring he would not be put off as he has been for two years past, and as he was sensible that it was not in their power to pay it, that he would take bills on us, which they hope we will take into consideration, as the non-compliance of his demand may be of ill consequence to the Company's there. The Ramnoma† being nigh, when he informs them his master must have it. That enclosed are their several papers and accounts from June to the 30th ultimo, as also from the 30th December 1747 to 30th December 1748, wrote fair to be sent home as usual and the Jugdea account current. That they have received information of the Darbar's not only having taken Mutchulkas from all the tradesmen and Podars, not to have any transactions with them, but from the Moody's not to supply them with necessaries and provisions, which occasioning a kind of mutiny amongst their soldiers and peons, the Chief and Council was obliged to send a message, that if provisions were stopped, they must get them wherever they could, for it was better to die fighting than starving. Upon which a small allowance was suffered to be brought in, but they expect in a day or two all provisions will be cut off when there will be a mutiny, not only on that account, but on account of their arrears which they have not wherewithal to pay. So that in case we have any regard for them, they hope we will as soon as possible supply them with men and money sufficient to make a proper defence there becoming Englishmen, or else to make a handsome retreat. That our answer they wait with impatience. That all the Chowkies from thence to Backergunge are full of people to prevent any supplies being sent them.

This morning we have received a letter from the Dutch Director, &c., Council at Houghly, dated 1st February (N. S.), advising they have heard, we have received news of a cessation of arms, of the truth of which they desire us to inform Mr. Phyle, the bearer thereof, that they may act accordingly in the despatch of their ships.

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* Nainsook, a fine muslin stuff used by ladies for summer dresses.

† Ramnoma, probably Ramanavami, the ninth lunation. The ninth day of the light half of *Chaitra*, the birthday of *Rama*.—Wilson's "Glossary of Indian Terms."

Fort William, 20th April 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. G. PATTLE.
J. MOSSMAN.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
W. FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE.

Read a memorial of the Military Officers, requesting an allowance for house-rent.

Agreed to refer the same to our Hon'ble Masters, and ordered it be entered after this Consultation.

W. BARWELL.
GEO. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
J. CRUTTENDEN.
J. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
W. FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE, *Jr.*

To—The HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, Esq., President and Governor of Fort William, &c., Council.

The Memorial of the Military Officers at Calcutta.

HUMBLY SHEWETH,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—That it is the practice and custom of all nations to provide lodgings for the military officers in their services, either by having barracks appropriated for that purpose, or by giving them an allowance in money to provide themselves with lodging, fire, and candle.

That there being yet no barracks in Fort William, or Calcutta for lodging the military officers, and that no rooms or lodgings ready furnished can be hired in private houses, nor anything less than a whole house can be hired, and that at a great expence, which is yet further heightened by the necessity of buying furniture for those houses, whereby the pay appointed for the subsistence of your memorialists is almost entirely consumed.

Therefore your memorialists most humbly hope you will take this their case into your consideration and grant them such allowance for lodging, &c., till barracks or other places are appointed for their reception as you shall think proper.

And your memorialists shall ever pray, &c.

Fort William, 4th May 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT :

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
W. FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

The Book of Standing Orders on the Table.

The Consultation of the 27th ultimo being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

The 28th ultimo.—We received a letter from the Worshipful Wadham Brooke, Esq., Chief, &c., Council at Cossimbuzar, dated 24th, acknowledges the receipt of ours of the 13th, whereby they find the Armenians in Calcutta are entirely satisfied with what we had done and wrote in their behalf. That this advice they communicated to Carroolly Beg, who seemed pleased therewith, and advised them to get us to procure it under their own hands in an address from them to the Nabob in Persian, to whom he said he would undertake to transmit it. That this it is thought may be of considerable service in the present posture of affairs, and doubt not but we will cause the Armenians to comply therewith. That what they wrote in theirs of the 6th in respect to satisfying the Armenians is no more than the constant language of the Durbar since the dispute began, and as the satisfying them was looked upon as a thing impracticable and what would never be complied with, the Setts therefore advised a sum of money to be given the Nabob as the cheapest and quickest manner of ending this business; whether their advice was right or not, time will only evince. That the general opinion of the Nabob's distressing the Company's affairs is that he wants to get a sum of money from each party, and that he will not fail of it in the end. That what sum he wants from the English is uncertain, but it was the common opinion some time ago that about Rs. 50,000 would have composed matters, but as they before wrote to us, offers must be made first on one side before they come to any certainty in regard to what he expects. That our Bill of Exchange for twenty-three thousand and four hundred Sicca Rupees (23,400 Sicca Rupees) has been accepted, but not received on account of the difficulty of bringing it into the Factory. That they are obliged to bribe the forces on their Factory to get in fresh provisions.

(No signatures.)
(*Sic in Org.*)

Fort William, 9th May 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
W. FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of 4th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

The 8th.—We received a letter from the Worshipful Wadham Brooke, Esq., Chief, &c., Council at Cossimbuzar, dated 4th instant, enclosing copies of two letters they received from Carooll̃y Beg, one being from Nawages Khan Mahomed to the Nabob, with his answer thereto, by which we may perceive that the Nabob remains seemingly fixed in doing what he thinks justice to the Armenians and others who have so long sued to him for that end.

Fort William, 15th May 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
W. FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

The Armenians attending the Board, deliver in a Persian paper, which being read to us—,

Ordered it to be translated and entered after this Consultation, together with the paper the Secretary drew up for them to sign, &c.

Agreed, that we take the same into consideration next Council day.

W. BARWELL.
G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
W. FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

The address of the Armenian Merchants residing in Calcutta.

To—The Hon'ble President and Council.

The Hon'ble President having demanded of us to sign a certificate of our being fully satisfied with regard to our claims on the India and Bussora ships now in dispute, which should we sign ruin would inevitably attend us.. On our non-compliance the Hon'ble President ordered us to depart the place immediately. We therefore humbly represent to Your Honour, &c., that as we have lived many years under the English flag and the Company's protection and never injured them in any respect, nor committed any act repugnant to the Government of the place, we hope Your Honour, &c., will consider our case favourably and with justice. But if we are to be punished without any crimes laid to our charge, we request the favour of two months' time to be allowed us, and we will then depart the place agreeable to Your Honour, &c., orders.

Copy of the paper drawn up by the Secretary for the Armenians to sign.

We, the under-written Armenians, residents of Calcutta, do hereby certify that we are satisfied with the measures the English President and Council have taken about the capture of the India and Bussora ships.

Fort William, 29th May 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
W. FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

The Book of Standing orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 23rd being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

The 24th.—We received a letter from Mr. Henry Kelsall, Resident at Ballasore, dated 19th instant, advising of the Nabob's being encamped within three leagues of Cuttack; that he expects hourly the news of Meer Shebeets and Auga Sheriffs being delivered into the Nabob's hands by their own zemindars. That the woods are all filled with the Rajah's people, so that few or none of the true Mahrattas will be able to return to their own country. And requesting the annual flags to be sent him as there are none to hoist.

The 27th.—We received a letter from Ballasore, dated the 1st instant, reporting that some of the people sent to follow the Nabob's army are returned with news of his having entered Cuttack. That on his approach Mechiabib with the Mahrattas fled. That five of his head zemindars stayed behind and surrendered themselves to the Nabob, who immediately cut off their heads. That no judgment can be formed how long he will stay in Cuttack.

Dooluberam and Meer Jaffier, to both of whom he has offered the Nabobship have refused it, nor does he hear of any one who chooses to stay, as they make no doubt of the Mahrattas returning next season.

Fort William, 1st June 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
W. FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

Translate of the paper delivered into Council by the Armenians was now read at the Board.

The President says that what is asserted by the Armenians in the foregoing address is a falsehood, for that he did not order them directly out of the place, but only threatened them, in case they did not sign the paper, they would deserve to be turned out.

The Armenians attending the Board were asked what satisfaction they would give us in regard to setting aside the disputes with the Government, and being also asked to sign the paper to the Nabob, declare they will not sign that or any other.

This refusal of the Armenians putting a stop to any hopes of accommodating the dispute with the Nabob, and throwing our dependance entirely on the Nabob's favour.

The President therefore desires the opinion of the Board how to proceed with regard to the Armenians.

The Board is of opinion that we ought to acquaint the Armenians that in case the Company pays anything occasioned by the complaint at the Durbar, if they do not consent to repay the same, we shall, after the expiration of two months, withdraw from them the Company's protection and dismiss them the town.

The Armenians were hereupon called in and acquainted therewith.

Mr. William Kempe is of opinion that the staying two months may impede the Company's business, so far as to prevent our getting a tonnage for the shipping, therefore they ought to be forced to satisfy the Nabob immediately.

Agreed, that we now write to Cossimbuzar and acquaint the gentlemen there, that we could not prevail on the Armenians to sign a paper to the Nabob, that they were satisfied with our proceedings on the capture of the Judda and Bussora ships. That we have wrote to Mr. Kelsall at Ballasore to endeavour to procure an order from the Nabob for a clearance to our business, and direct that they will use their endeavours to procure such clearance either through the Nabob's favour, or else on easy terms, for which purpose we permit them to offer as far as fifteen (15) or twenty (20) thousand rupees.

W. BARWELL.
G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE, *Jr.*
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

Fort William, 19th June 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
W. FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

The book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 12th being wrote fair, was now read, approved, and signed.

Yesterday we received a letter from the worshipful Wadham Brooke, Esq., Chief, &c., Council at Cossimbuzar, dated the 14th instant, advising that they fear the refusal of the Armenians to sign the paper we tendered them, will cause a longer delay, and a much greater expense to the Company before matters can be brought to a conclusion, than if they had complied with our request. That Carooley Beg has often called upon them for such a declaration under the Armenians' hands which might have procured an accommodation on more moderate terms than they can hope for. That our permission to offer as far as 15 or 20,000 rupees; he applied to the Setts and Birabdull, but understand from them that nothing can be done in our favor till the arrival of the Nabob at Muxadabad. That they conceive the sum we have limited them to give will be too small (if the Nabob should favor them so far as to take nothing for himself) for the forces put over them, and will be rejected with contempt, and therefore should be glad to know the utmost extent of what we intend to give in order to expedite this business as soon as possible upon the Nabob's arrival.

The 17th.—We received a letter from Mr. Henry Kelsall, Resident at Ballasore, under date the 9th instant, advising that the Nabob arrived there the three days before. That he met him the same day and delivered him the President's letter, which he desired him to peruse, as also to give him leave to return the next day, which he consented to, and told him he was resolved to befriend the English, and desired him to transport his ammunition and cannon to Calcutta with the greatest expedition, the roads being so bad he could not carry them with him. That the next morning he returned and represented to the Nabob how prejudicial this stoppage of business would be to his revenues as well as the Company. That unless he immediately withdrew his forces, it would be impossible to do any business this season. That he asked him if we had ever transgressed in taking ships within his jurisdiction, and said that if the men-of-war who took the ships in dispute had done an unjustifiable act, Arcot was the place to seek redress at. That it would be impossible for ours, or any Company in the world, to hold it out, if he, on whose favour we solely depended, gave ear to everything that was said to our prejudice. That he staid with him for some hours, and he seemed not at all displeased with his freedom in representing the affair to him, and giving him a horse and a dress, told him to go. That on asking him what we were to expect, he made this answer: On his arrival at

Muxadabad, he would finish the affair. That enclosed was a letter from the Nabob to the President.

W. BARWELL.
G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
W. FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE, *Jr*.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

Fort William, 6th July 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
W. FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE.
E. R. CRUTTENDEN.

The Book of Standing Orders on the Table.

President's address to the Nabob.

I have received Your Excellency's Perwannah and answer to my address. I am extremely well pleased our Chief at Ballasore, Mr. Kelsall, has rendered himself agreeable, and esteem myself greatly obliged by the favours you have been pleased to confer on him. The pananqueen, bamboo, and other things that Your Excellency committed to his care arrived on a sloop, which sloop with those things on board I immediately despatched to Houghly Sheik Hydalluben Phousdar; what still remains at Ballasore, on their arrival here, shall be also forwarded to him.

I now congratulate Your Excellency on your return in safety to Muxadabad from chastising the Mahrattas, who, I am informed, retired with loss and shame before your conquering army.

The bad consequences attending our Company's affairs from the unjust complaints of the Armenians and others to Your Excellency, is beyond expression. To add still more to our misfortune, the hardships we suffer from the forces on our Cossimbuzar Factory, is without precedent, distressing us in our credit as well as in every other manner the most disobliging; by which it appears the complainants act rather as open enemies to our country than humble petitioners for justice with Your Excellency, they well knowing the Company are not aggressors, nor was it in our power to prevent the accidents that have happened, which I have before taken the liberty to remonstrate to Your Excellency, and I do now again assure Your Excellency, that had they been in any manner concerned therein, I would have taken care you should not have been troubled with any complaints, but should have complied with whatever had been agreeable to Your Excellency's justice. As the case now is, we have very particularly advised our Company thereof, and the great favour you are pleased to shew these people. But it requires a length of time before we can have an answer; humbly request Your Excellency will permit the Company's affairs to go on in the usual manner without any further molestation.

(No signatures.)
(*Sic in orig.*)

Fort William, 13th July 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
W. FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

Received an address from the Armenians and read the same.

Ordered, it be entered after this Consultation, and that it be translated into Persian, to be transmitted to the gentlemen at Cossimbuzar.

W. BARWELL.
G. PATTLE.
A. DAWSON, &c.

To—THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., President and Governor of Fort William, &c., Council.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

In our late address to Your Honor, &c., we humbly set forth that we were no ways concerned in the complaints to the Nabob, and at the same time gave our reasons for not complying with your commands in signing the obligation required of us to be sent to the Nabob, which we again take the liberty of assuring Your Honor, &c., would be attended with our entire ruin, and at the same time can be of no manner of service to the Hon'ble Company; and therefore humbly request you will be pleased to take our case again into consideration and favor us once more with a hearing before you finally determine on the utter destruction of a people, who are ready and willing to give Your Honor, &c., the utmost satisfaction in their power, and to enter into an obligation to be answerable for all costs and damages that may accrue to the Hon'ble Company, should it ever be certainly proved that we directly or indirectly moved, stirred or were in any ways concerned in the complaints to the Nabob. This we humbly offer Your Honor, &c., as a means of removing from Your Honor, &c., displeasure, and being with the greatest respect, &c.

Fort William, 28th August 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM BARWELL, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. W. FYTCHE.
H. BELLAMY.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
R. DRAKE.
S. ROOPER.
W. WATTS.
T. BURROW.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 4th being wrote fair, was now read, approved, and signed.

Yesterday we received a letter from the Worshipful Edward Eyles, Chief, &c., Council at Cossimbuzar, dated 23rd instant, advising that the Nabob received Mr. Kelsall very graciously and made him great professions of service, but Hookem Beg and Carolley Beg being present (by whom the Nabob is entirely influenced) seemed inclined to prevent any private discourses Mr. Kelsall might desire to have with him on this subject, and as they have since found that the Nabob has left the whole management of this affair entirely to them, they thought it improper to send Mr. Kelsall back again to him, lest they might thereby incense two such powerful men, and make it more difficult for them to accommodate the dispute. That they then purposed Mr. Kelsall's waiting on the Setts to represent the whole affair to them, and endeavour to prevail on them again to mention it to the Nabob in the most favorable manner they could, but they seem so much in awe of Hookem Beg that they did not care to interfere therein, nor to admit of any visit till this dispute with the Durbar was made up. That they have for some days past and are now using their utmost skill and endeavour to bring them over to them from the Armenians, who, they are informed, pay them a constant court, and without doubt have made them great promises to espouse their complaint. That they are concerned to advise us that arguments alone are not likely to take effect, and that this dispute cannot be finished without charge to the Company, wherefore they are endeavouring to find out on what terms it may be easiest accommodated, that the Company may be no longer sufferers by stoppage to their business, and as soon as they have reduced the demands as low as they think is possible, they shall advise us, and wait our orders. But they fear, from what has been privately intimated to their vakeels, the Nabob will not be satisfied with a small sum.

Fort William, 31st August 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. W. FYTCHE.
H. BELLAMY.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
S. ROOPER.
W. WATTS.
T. BURROW.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 28th being wrote fair, was now read, approved, and signed.

This morning we received a letter from the Worshipful Edward Eyles, Esq., &c., Council at Cossimbuzar, dated the 28th instant, advising they have permitted Mr. Kelsall to return to Calcutta, but before he left the place, they thought it proper to ask Carooley Beg and Hookem Beg leave that he might wait on the Nabob once more and enquire if he had any commands for him at Ballasore, to which they gave their consent. That the Chief took this opportunity to present an Arzdaz to the Nabob setting forth in the strongest terms possible, the Company's great sufferings since the business was first stopped, and the little foundation the Armenians had for this complaint, wherewith the Company had nothing to do. But this remonstrance had not the effect they wished for; after he read it he told Mr. Kelsall the Armenians must be satisfied. That notwithstanding Mr. Kelsall had some interest with the Nabob and met with a very handsome reception at the Durbar, they don't find that he is at all inclinable to favor them in the present dispute, which, as they have before advised, rests entirely with Hookem and Carooley Beg, who are men of such oppressive and mercenary tempers as leave them little hopes of this affair being to be made up under a large sum of money. That they have given these people to understand they will not be ungrateful for any services they should please to do the Company. To which they answered that when they knew what we intend to offer the Nabob, they would tell us whether it lay in their power; upon which they agreed to offer as far as we empowered them by our letter of the 1st June. But this was rejected as being far short of what the Nabob would expect. That having given us a state of this troublesome dispute with the Nabob, they request our orders how to proceed therein; in the meantime, they will continue using their best skill and endeavours to reduce the demand as low as possible; that the forces still remain around the Factory, and they are informed, unless the Nabob speedily receives a more satisfactory answer, they will be shortly increased.

Fort William, 12th September 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. W. FYTCHE.
H. BELLAMY.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
S. ROOPER.
W. WATTS.
T. BURROW.

The Consultation of the 9th instant being wrote fair, was now read, approved, and signed.

Yesterday we received a letter from the Worshipful Edward Eyles, Esq., Chief, &c., Council at Cossimbuzar, advising that on Mr. Eyles' arrival there they were informed that nothing less than four laaks of rupees would satisfy the Nabob for what the Armenians, &c., had suffered by the capture of the two ships; but on giving Hookem Beg and Caroolley Beg to understand no great sum on such unjust a pretence would ever be complied with, and standing it out with them they have reduced it to two laaks which Hookem Beg tell them the Nabob will certainly insist on. But notwithstanding this they still believe that by standing out longer, it may in time be brought down to one laak, besides 25 or 30,000 Rs. to Hookem Beg and officers, and lower than this they think it will be hardly possible to reduce it without undergoing the disadvantages of losing the whole season, and thereby disappointing us of having any goods down from thence. That the offers they have made for accommodating matters have been refused with much anger. Hookem Beg returning for answer they were insufficient to pay the charge of the forces which they obliged the Nabob to put upon their Factory. That though the Nabob has all along made use of the Armenians' complaint as a plea for demanding this money of them, they have some reason to believe he never intends they shall be much the better for it, and that it served only as a pretence to raise a large sum to relieve his present necessity for money; that this they are more convinced of from what has been credibly told them. That as soon as this affair is finished, he intends to attack the French and Dutch in the same manner.

A. DAWSON.
W. FYTCHE.
H. BELLAMY.
R. DRAKE, *Jr.*
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
T. BURROW.
S. ROOPER.
W. WATTS.

Fort William, 18th September 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. W. FYTCHE.
H. BELLAMY.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
S. ROOPER.
W. WATTS.
T. BURROW.

Yesterday we received a letter from the Worshipful Edward Eyles, Esq., Chief, &c., Council at Cossimbuzar, dated the 14th instant, advising of the Nabob's having sent Carooley Beg there to sound their intentions with regard to making up the present dispute; that they again told him they thought the Armenians' complaint the most unjust that could be, and that although the Company had suffered infinite prejudice from the Nabob's severe orders, that we would never agree to pay much money, therefore if he with Hookem Beg would represent the case favorably to the Nabob and use their interest to make it up on easy terms, we should be ready to reward their services. That on this assurance and finding it in vain to insist on so high a demand as what they advised us in their last, he told them he would go back to the Nabob and inform him of their answer, promising to employ his whole interests to finish it in the best manner he could. That the Chiefs wrote to the Setts Golaum Hussein and other Durbar officers of any influence, desiring them to use their influence in favor of the Company, which they hope will have a good effect, and prevail on the Nabob to finish this affair on more moderate terms than what he lately insisted on. That as soon as they receive an answer from Hookem Beg they will advise us thereof.

Fort William, 18th October 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. W. FYTCHE.
H. BELLAMY.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
S. ROOPER.
W. WATTS.
T. BURROW.

The consultation of the 16th being wrote fair, was now read, approved, and signed.

Yesterday we received a letter from the gentlemen at Cossimbuzar, dated 13th instant, advising that finding it impossible to persuade Carooley Beg to accept their offer of a laak of Rs. (100,000), he having received the Nabob's orders for insisting on one laak and Rs. 20,000, they agreed to pay the same on Carooley Beg's promising to procure them the Perwannahs as soon as the Dusserah was over, but the Nabob being confined to his room by sickness, prevented Carooley Beg's gaining access to him. That being sensible how very prejudicial the least delay would be to our master's affairs at this time, they sent their

Vakeels to Hookem Beg and Caroolley Beg to enquire whether the Nabob's order could not be obtained by their writing to acquaint him they had consented to comply with his demand, to which they sent for answer, that as the complaints of the Armenians made great noise at Muxadabad, the Nabob first of all required them to appear before all the Durbar whilst he was present and publicly acknowledge themselves to be satisfied for their losses; that this Hookem Beg made them promise to do on their agreeing to pay the Rs. 20,000 they mentioned in their last. That the moment they hear of the Nabob's attending the Durbar, and giving orders about the Perwannah, they will immediately advise us. That enclosed are their indents for the use of their Factory, which they request we will supply them with by the first opportunity.

This morning we received a letter from Mr. Henry Kelsall, Resident at Ballasore, dated the 9th instant, acknowledging the receipt of the 8,000 Arcot rupees and the annual present which has been so long due to that Government. That he will implicitly obey the Company's orders for withdrawing that Factory and retiring to Bulram Gunj as soon as he can possibly withdraw the Company's effects, which the return of the Mahrattas has as yet made impracticable to do, there being some thousands encamped close to the Factory without any head to command them, the zemindars being with Mierabit, who with the whole army is expected in a few days. That is uncertain how long their stay will be, though he believes but short, and as soon as ever they are past he will acquaint us. That enclosed are the accounts of that Factory. That the grain and boot which was sent hither for the Nabob's use, and did not arrive there till after his departure, he shall dispose of to the best advantage and give the Company credit for the same.

A. DAWSON.

W. FYTCHE.

H. BELLAMY.

R. DRAKE, *Jr.*

E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

S. ROOPER.

W. WATTS.

T. BURROW.

Fort William, September 1749.
At a Consultation, present:
The Hon'ble Adam Dawson, Esq., *President.*
Messrs. W. Fytche.
H. Bellamy.
R. Drake.
E. H. Cruttenden.
S. Rooper.
W. Watts.
T. Burrow.

Received a letter from the Hon'ble Duval D'Leyrit, Governor of Chandernagore, &c., Council there, dated 19th September 1749, importing their uneasiness for having no other motive to renew their correspondence, which the war broke off, than by complaining of the insults offered to their colours by His Majesty's ship *Harwich* and by our soldiers opposite to Barnagore. That they were extremely surprised to hear that our man-of-war obliged their ship, the *Brilliant,* to salute her and lower her flag, and that she likewise fired upon two of their sloops and forced them to pull down their colors, which acts of violence they can't help protesting against, being absolutely contrary to the conventions passed between our respective Sovereigns, as also to the custom and neutrality of the Ganges. That a third sloop with French colors having on board effects belonging to their Company to a considerable amount was attacked as she was passing Barnagore by many boats with soldiers, who boarded her sword in hand and searched her. That they are persuaded this last insult was committed contrary to our orders, and hope that we will punish the aggressors, as such like disorders will be of the utmost ill consequence to the commerce of the two nations.

Agreed, that we write in answer thereto that we are extremely sorry they should have occasion to complain of the behaviour of the officers of our King's ships, who are not under our direction. That we have made all the enquiry in our power concerning the sloop which was boarded off Barnagore, and learn that this was likewise done by the King's officers who were in quest of some of their men who deserted. That we hope therefore they will not esteem us aggressors in the violence offered to their ships and sloops.

A. DAWSON.
W. FYTCHE.
H. BELLAMY.
R. DRAKE, *Jr.*
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
S. ROOPER.
W. WATTS.
T. BURROW.

Fort William, September 1749.
At a Consultation, present:
The Hon'ble Adam Dawson, Esq., *President.*
Messrs. W. Fytche.
H. Bellamy.
R. Drake.
E. H. Cruttenden.
S. Rooper.
W. Watts.
T. Burrow.

Captain Stedman sent in a letter to the Board, requesting a supply of guns to make up his charter party number, having been obliged to throw 11 overboard in the storm.

Ordered the Store-keeper to comply therewith, and that his request be entered after this Consultation.

A. DAWSON.
W. FYTCHE.
H. BELLAMY.
R. DRAKE, *Jr*.
S. ROOPER.
W. WATTS.
T. BURROW.

Fort William, 20th October 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:
THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*
MESSRS. W. FYTCHE.
H. BELLAMY.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
S. ROOPER.
W. WATTS.
T. BURROW.

The Consultation of the 19th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

This morning we received a letter from the Worshipful E. Eyles, Esq., Chief, &c., Council at Cossimbuzar, dated the 18th October, advising that the Nabob being somewhat recovered from his late illness, had a Durbar the 15th at night, when the Armenians were present, and on their expressing themselves satisfied in regard to their losses by the English, the Nabob gave orders publicly for a currency to our business, and the forces to be taken off the Factory. But when the Durbar was over, Hookem Beg gave them to understand by the Vakeels that before those orders could be executed, the Rs. 1,20,000 must be paid or security given for it; that they had some days before directed the Vakeel to wait upon the Setts and sound them in regard to supplying them with what money they might want on this occasion, but could never get a positive answer from them before the dispute with the Nabob was ended, when they sent the Vakeels to them again to request they would advance the money. That at first they made the greatest difficulty to comply with their request, notwithstanding they assured them it should be paid out of the first money that came up. That after representing to them strongly the ill-consequences that would arise to the Company's affairs in case their business was not cleared immediately, they send Ruydass, their Gomastah, there to talk with them further about it, who complained heavily of our not having paid them anything this season of the large debt the Company owed them at that Factory, notwithstanding so much treasure had been imported by the several ships lately arrived, and then told them they could not let them have the money unless they would promise to pay them three laaks of rupees as soon as their boats come up. That they told Ruydass they could not answer this without first writing to us about it, but if the Setts would furnish them with the money they had then occasion for, they would write to us to supply with as much as ever we could spare, which should be all paid to them, but this being no way satisfactory, he then demanded of them to give up a Bill of Exchange they had on his master's house for 23,000 sicca rupees, the four chests of bullion remaining in their Treasury, and to draw a bill on us for two laaks of sicca rupees (2,00,000) directly, which they agreed to, on his promising to advance one laak and 50,000 sicca rupees. That they are much concerned for the loss of so much time as passed between the day they accommodated this dispute and procuring the Perwannahs, but as it is owing to the Dusserah holidays and the Nabob's indisposition, joined with their slow manner of proceeding at the Durbar, and trouble the Setts gave in furnishing them with money, they hope we will not impute the delay to their neglect. That the Perwannahs for Houghley and other places are writing out, and when they receive them, they shall be forwarded with the utmost expedition. That Mr. Brown having some business in Calcutta, requests our permission to come down for a few days.

Dussurah, Dusserra, Dussora, Dashera. The *nine nights* (or ten days) festival in October, also called *Durga-pūjā.* In the West and South of India this holiday, taking place after the close of the wet season, became a great military festival, and the period when military expeditions were entered upon. The Mahrattas were alleged to celebrate the occasion in a way characteristic of them, by destroying a village!

The proper etymology of the word is *dās*, ten (sins) and *h̄ar* that which removes (or expiates). It is perhaps connected with ten days duration of the feast, or with its chief day being the 10th of the month of the (*Asvina*), but the origin is decidedly obscure.—Anglo-Indian Glossary by Colonel Yule and Mr. Burnell.

Fort William, 26th October 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. W. FYTCHE.
H. BELLAMY.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
S. ROOPER.
W. WATTS.
T. BURROW.

This morning we received a letter from Mr. H. Kelsall, Resident at Balasore, dated 17th October, advising of the arrival there of the Mahrattas with Mierabib and Mohansing, who are encamped within sight of the Factory. That the rear guard consisting of Patans was expected to arrive that day, and altogether form an army of 40,000 men. That as soon as they are past he will withdraw the Factory according to our orders.

Fort William, 21st December 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. W. FYTCHE.
H. BELLAMY.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN
S. ROOPER.
W. WATTS.
T. BURROW.

Received a letter from Captain George Minchin, dated the 19th instant, from Dean's town, importing that he should distress the Mahrattas to the utmost of his power as he looked on the sloops to be in a state of defence sufficient to secure the men from the shot of the Mahrattas, he intended to bring them in close to the shore, and that he apprehends he will be able to distress them greatly if not entirely destroy them.

Agreed, that we give orders to Captain Cush to lay off Dean's town, and on his arrival there to advise us, but wait for further directions; but in the interim should the Mahrattas fire upon his ship, or in any other shape molest him, then to return their fire and to destroy and distress them in whatsoever manner he should think best, and for this purpose they would have him advise and consult with Captain George Minchin.

Agreed, we write to Captain Minchin to assist Captain Cush with his advice and otherwise.

Ordered, that Captain Minchin's letters with these our orders to be entered in the Book apart.

Mr. Burrow is of opinion that Captain Cush should have positive orders to drive the Mahrattas from Dean's town, and destroy the place as he thinks the not taking such measures, or the deferring of them may be attended with bad consequences.

A. DAWSON.
H. BELLAMY.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
W. WATTS.
W FYTCHE.
R. DRAKE, *Jr.*
S. ROOPER.
T. BURROW.

Fort William, 22nd December 1749.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE A. DAWSON, ESQ., *President,*

MESSRS. W. FYTCHE.
H. BELLAMY.
R. DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
S. ROOPER.
W. WATTS.
T. BURROW.

Received a letter from Captain George Minchin, dated 21st instant, advising of his having hauled in close to the shore, and firing about 13 shot and 17 shells on the Mahrattas, when they desired a parley which he granted, and that they should cease any further proceedings against them till he had our orders.

Ordered Captain Minchin's letter with our orders thereon to be entered in the Book apart?

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, dated Fort St. David, 16th Jany. 1748-9.

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The day after the receipt of the News of the Cessation of Arms &ca and His Majesty's Proclamation thereof, General Boscawen sent an ansr of the same to Mr Dupleix whereupon Major Lawrance and Capt Bruce that was taken Prisoner with him were permitted to give their Paroles & come hither, and upon the Arrival of the *Favourete* with them the 7th instant, who brought a Confirmation of the same, all the Prisoners they had there belonging to us were sent hither, and the Major has again taken charge of the Garrison which we had delivered to Captain Holland as being the Oldest Officer (Captain Morgan having laid down the Service on Account of age and Infirmities) and Constituted him Commandant at the Same Allowances as were granted to Capt Gebson, but he having now delivered up the same again and there being at present no prospect of any further Action here, he purposes to proceed to Bengal by the first Conveyance that offers to take the Command of the Company your Honours have order'd him there. The Vacancy made by Captain Morgan we filled up with Mr William Henry Southby who was a Lieutenant of Marines in his Majesty's Serviceu pon the General's recommendation of him for the same, and that made by Capt Gingins being appointed of the Troop of Horse as Mr John Scrimsaur was the next Senior Officer we gave him the Compy, but with this Proviso, that should your Honours not think proper to continue the Troop that he should resign the same to Capt Gingins again, and in his room have appointed Mr James Cope a Lieutenant as well as Adjutant as an Encouragement for the Paines he takes in disciplining the Military, and we are informed that is the Post he bore whn in His Majesty's Service. Being in need also of an Officer that had some knowledge in the Train Duty, we have given a Commission to one Peter Nost who bore the Station of a Bombardier in His Majesty's Train of Artillery and has been bred up in that branch from his Infancy, though at present he acts as an Ensign of the Military, but we purpose shortly to remove him to our Train of Artillery and make him a Lieutenant which we hope will meet with your Honours Approbation.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies,

Dated Fort St. David, 22nd Febry 1748-9.

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* * As the private men that were in Cuddalore when it was attackt by the Enemy all behaved very well, and it was probable we should soon after have an occasion to try them again, to encourage them to act in like manner we made them a present of a couple of shirts each; and no fault having been found with the Seapoys that were there, to the Heads of them we presented a few Yards of Broad Cloth, and to their people to the value of a Rupee each in a Turbanb or Sash.

Cons., 28 June.

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53. Of our having raised a Troop of Horse in your honours Service you have already been acquainted with, and we must now assure you that we find it of Infinite service as it is to be relied on, which cannot be said of any Peons that can be hir'd, and the number of them that were obliged to keep before (the Expence of which will fully Discharge that of the Troop) we shall shortly Dismiss as we have found them of very little Service on the Late Expedition, and had we been without the Troop we should have laboured under great inconveniencys, which will in case of any stoppages of Goods going or coming from the Country soon remove the Cause, and more expeditiously than any Peons. Therefore we hope Your Honours will think proper to continue the same. General Boscawen is of opinion also that the continuing the same will be more

Lre to England, 25th April.

for your Interest than a Number of Peons (which must be done if the Troop is abolish'd) having but a very mean oppinion of those People from what he saw of them on the Expedition. He has also been kind as to give us his advice concerning the Establishment thereof which we have followed as your Honours will observe by our Consultations. The cost of the Horses that have been bought for the same amounts to Nineteen thousand four hundred and twelve Pagodas six fanams & fifty five cash 19412:6:55.

Cons., 24 Octr.

To the Hoñble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honãble the United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

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HONOURABLE,

As we imagine an address by the way of Bussorah may possibly reach your honours before any of the Shipping that will proceed for Europe next month, we therefore now dispatch this to Bombay to be forwarded from thence by the first opportunity, and have the great satisfaction to acquaint your Honours that General Boscawen took possession of Fort St George on the 21st instant, which occasion Universal Joy among the late Inhabitants of that place who throng'd there in great numbers immediately on hoisting the English Flag, thõ all the Art the French made use of could not induce them to return while they were in Possession, and the attachment they now shew to the English gives them no little Mortification. The Condition we have received it in, is indeed very indifferent, the French having Undermined the Fortification and riffled it of all the usefull and valuable Stores, the particulars of which we shall transmitt your Honours with our next advices.

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To the Honãble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hoñble the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

HONOURABLE,

By the Hoñble rear Admiral Boscawen who purposes to leave us tomorrow you will receive this Address, & it gives Us the greatest concern to think that we should have occasion to represent to you that notwithstanding the Peace concluded between His Majesty the King of France, Your Settlements on this Coast are far from feeling its good Effects; Nay; on the contrary are more Embroiled then they were even during the War, all owing to the Wiles & Artificies of Monsieur Dupleix, the French Company's Governour of Pondicherry, who has so bitter an Enmity to the English, as not to be able to refrain from shewing it by committing Acts of Hostility in an underhand manner, though he will not venture to declare openly against Us as your Honours will see by the following Sketch of his late proceedings.

No sooner was Mr. Dupleix certain that the Preliminary Articles of the Peace were certified & he freed from any Apprehensions he might be under of an Attack, but one Chunda Saib (formerly a Moors General), who, upon the Nabob his master being defeated, had retired into the Mountains & there liv'd in obscurity & whose family had taken refuge in Pondicherry, & were in that place during the whole time of the Seige, began raising Men in the Country to endeavour to disposses Anaverdy Cawn the then Nabob; & get the Government of the Province for himself.

Mr. Dupleix pretended to have no concern in the Matter but sent out all the Seapoys in the French pay to join Chunda Saib under the Colour of his discharging them to lesson their Expences & the Men engaging them to serve him. But when Affairs were brought to a Crisis the Mask was thrown off, & he publickly avowed the Cause of Chunda Saib & sent out 900 of the best Europeans in the Garrison of Pondicherry with a Detachment of Artillery to join him as Auxiliauir.

Soon after this junction Chunda Saib forced the Nabob to a Battle, wherein by the assistance of the French who gave the turn of the scale, the Nabob himself was killed, & his whole Army defeated, the Consequence of which has been Chunda Saib taking upon him the Government of this Province as Nabob by an illegal Firmaund procured from Mustapa Jung, without the knowledge or consent of Nazar Jung.

The first act he did after arriving at this Dignity was the recompencing his good Allies by granting them 42 Villages of the Villanour Country which lay all round this Settlement, & by way of reward to Mr Dupleix in particular the following towns & their Revenues have been given to him & his Relations *viz.*,[t]—

Coibelong to Mr Dupleix.
Porto Novo to Madame Dupleix.
Alempara to Monsr D'Antel his Brother-in-Law.
St Thome to Padrie D'————, a Relation of Madame Dupleixes.

So that we are surrounded in such a manner as for the French to have it entirely in their power to stop our tradè, or debar us from any supplys of Provisions from the Country, and we have great reason to believe, from what has already happen'd, they will not be wanting to make use of this advantage, for the Padre's Zeal being either warmer than the other could not help discovering himself, by forbidding on the severest Penalties, any sort of refreshments going to Madrass through or out of his Dependances: and by insulting us in other Respects, in somuch that at last we were oblig'd to apply to General Boscawen for his Assistance, who immediately sent & took the Padre Prisoner, & is bringing him to England to be disposed of as his Majesty shall think proper.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, dated Fort St. David, 2nd Novr 1749.

*   *   *   *   *   *   *

45. We have compleated the Horn Work on the Northside of the Fort and about half finish'd the Sunetts to the East & West, the latter of which is now proceeding on in a gradual manner; and we judgè the Compleating of them and filling up the Covered way will be sufficient to employ our Workmen till we have the pleasure to receive you farther Commands on this Head; and in the interim have only to assure you that the Constant and Sincere regard we have always had for your Honours Interest, will obligè us still to continue our utmost care and Industry to prevent putting you to the least unnecessary Expence in all the Progress we may make herein.

46. Your Honour have been already inform'd in an address we made you Overland the 30th August that your Settlement of Fort St George was restored to us on the 21st of that Month, We have therefore here only to acquaint you that the Condition in which it was delivered was so Extreamly Bad, that we apprehend it will require to be Entirely New Fortified, all the Walls and Bastions being Underminded in such a manner that they must in all probability fall down in the Ensuing Moonsoon, and it is represented by His Majesty's Engineers and all the Bricklayers that they are no ways to be repaired, Neither are they in the least Capable of bearing any Cannon upon them, on which last Circumstances We have been oblig'd so far to deviate from your directions as to Permitt a Platform that was began by the French to be finish'd, as we are inform'd it tends greatly to the present Security of the Place, and we hope your Honours will not be displeased thereat, as we conceive it to be absolutely necessary. As our Engineer is gone, We cannot at this time send you a Plan thereof, but will Endeavour to get one prepar'd with an Estimate of the Expence in readiness to send you by the January Ship.

Con., 8th Sepr.

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Con., 3d Mar.
13th do.

54. A complaint having been brought before us by Mr Francis Fordyce for an Asault that was made on him by Mr Robert Clive; due Enquiry was made by us into the same. In the Course of which it appearing that Mr Fordyce

had given great Provocation for such Proceeding, by having frequently Scandilized his Character in a most unsufferable manner, and being further acquainted that he had at several times taken great Libertys in his Conversation in making use of many unbecoming Reflections on the President and all the Members of the Board, In Consequence of this his Aggressions and Disrespect together with the many Instances we have had of his Insolent and Medling disposition, We came to a Resolution of suspending him your Honours Service, And besides the reasons already given for our so doing, We might still add that He was in General remark'd to be extreamly Negligent and remiss in the several Duties of his Functions particularly in the Burial of the Soldiers and Seamen, which part of his Office he scarce ever attended, notwithstanding he had been twice or thrice Rebuk'd by the President for not doing, and which neglect had at length began to Create great Discontent in our Military. We therefore presume that upon a due consideration of all these Circumstances, your honours will concur with us in the measures We have taken herein. In which dependance we shall only add as It is not to be doubted but Mr Fordyce will set forth his own Story to your Honours, and least the same should be to Mr Clive's Prejudice, We think it not improper to assure you that he is Generally Esteem'd a very quiet Person, and no ways guilty of Disturbances.

Con., 31st Mar.

55. After the Dissmission of Mr Fordyce as we were then without any Chaplain We thought proper to entertain the Reverend Mr Robert Palk who has been many Years Chaplain to Mr Boscawen and was Strenuously Recommended by him.

* * * * *

Con., 7th Augt.

65. The Company of Artillery remains as yet very Incompleat, having found it very difficult to procure Persons Qualified for that Service, We endeavour'd all we could to prevail on those in His Majesty's Train to enter with us, and as a great Encouragement to Induce them thereto, We agreed as the Pay directed in your New Regulations was somewhat less than is allow'd in His Majesty's Service, to allow 4d ꝑ diem more to each Gunner, and to give one shilling ꝑ Diem to all Matrosses, but all would not tempt them, and not above twenty six came over to us.

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Con., 28th Feby.

69. Upon the Strenuous Advice and Recommendation of Major Lawrance for the still continuing some of our Topasses in the Service In order to releive the Europeans from Duty in the violent heat of the Day, We have therefore for that reason, as likewise upon consideration of the small strength of our Garrison, been constrained for the present, to deviate from your Honours directions therein, and have accordingly Entertained them at 10d ꝑ Diem which the Major judges to be a proportionable pay to the Europeans, till you are pleased to direct the contrary.

* * * * *

Con., 20 Octr.

82. Since our last address to your Honours under the 18th ultimo by Admiral Boscawen, finding Ourselves in a quiet and Undisturb'd Possession of Fort St George, and Judging that it will be again a Place of great Trade & Business, and that an Investment may be shortly commenced provided proper Encouragement is given to the Merchants and Inhabitants of that place, We have taken into Consideration the directions your Honours were pleased to give us thereon in looking upon that place as a Subordinate Settlement till further orders, and to send such Persons there as are necessary, to invite and encourage Trade, and accordingly in Consultation We appointed Mr Richard Prince Deputy Governour, Mr Richard Starke Second, Mr John Smith third, Mr William Smyth King fourth, and Mr John Walsh fifth of Council, who will proceed for Madras soon after this Ship's Dispatch.

Exd.—P. K. B.

Goverment of India Central Printing Office.—No. 819 F. D.—11-11-92.—500.

TO—THE HON'BLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS
for affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England
trading to the East Indies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,—Our last address bore date the 22nd ultimo, per ship *Lapwing*, duplicate whereof is enclosed, since which time we have been favoured with Your Honour's commands under date the 10th May 1748 accompanying His Majesty's proclamation for the cessation of arms which we shall pay due obedience.

2. This waits on Your Honours per *Exeter* to advise of your affairs under our management since the 22nd December, and serves to transmit you Captain Weston's requests for the several sums of money which has been advanced him for the use and expenses of this ship with one of the bonds he has executed for the same, together with the bonds entered into by Captains Baron Fisher and Broadley for the sums of money which they took up here for the expenses of their ships.

3. We are preparing to dispatch the *Eastcourt* and *Bombay Castle*, and hope to get them away sometime in February.

4. Before any bales were laden on the ship she was duly surveyed and the Captain's request with the Master Attendant's report comes enclosed, as also Captain Weston's requests for saltpetre laden on the *Exeter*.

5. Your Honours having ordered ten tons (10) of turmerick to be sent you, we have laden on board this vessel on Charter Party terms to be shot loose in the hold, the Captain having first consented thereto.

6. Enclosed in this packet we send Captain Weston's request for men, upon which we sent for the Commandant to know if any could be spared him, to which he replied that we could not spare any.

7. In our address per *Swallow* we advised Your Honours of Messrs. Blackford's and Bellamy's* not having wrote us for some time since, when we thought proper to order one of the gentlemen of Dacca to repair thither, and the Chief and Council there dispatched Mr. Pearkes on that service, who inspected in that matter.

8. In a letter from those gentlemen under date the 13th December they represent to us their having wrote by the way of Dacca the 27th May last, as by duplicate enclosed acknowledging the receipt of the treasure per *Pinnace*, as likewise triplicate of an invoice amounting to five thousand two hundred and seventy-six rupees and three annas (R5,276-3); that they forwarded the original to the gentlemen at Dacca, who acknowledged the receipt and dispatch thereof. The duplicate whereof was likewise forwarded, all which letters to their great surprise and concern they found had miscarried. That their silence and neglect to forward the account current has been occasioned by the long sickness of Messrs. Blackford and Bellamy, who have been much indisposed; they at the same time sent us the account sale of the bullion by which we might observe that a gain arose to Your Honours thereon, which they hoped would be acceptable, they having disposed thereof at two hundred and ten sicca rupees (210) for two hundred and forty sicca weight (240), and informed us, should we have occasion to send them any more, they believed they should be able to dispose of it at nigh the same price.

9. In the same letter they acknowledged the receipt of twenty thousand rupees (20,000) sent them by the gentlemen at Dacca, part of which they had invested, and requested us to send down a lack of rupees to go on with their investment in the months of February, March and April, as then the cloth will be better, there being but few buyers.

10. They likewise advised that the mugs and robbers who have done great mischief about that place, Dacca, obliged them to keep the *Pinnace* till the 8th of that month, when they dispatched her as likewise a boat of goods amounting to twenty-three thousand eight hundred and fifty-one rupees fourteen annas and nine pie (23,851-14-9). Both goods arrived safe the 12th instant, and consist mostly of brown cloth, and arrived too late for chinting this year.

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* At Jugdea.

11. Our merchants on the 31st December representing to us that the Nabob's action upon the complaint of the Armenians, Moguls, &c., about two of their ships been taken, had ordered peons on all their Gomastahs at the Aurungs and stopped the boats which were bringing down their goods, we came to a resolution to threaten stopping the Armenian ships from passing our fort, the season being too far advanced to wait for redress; and then directed the gentlemen at Cossimbazar to inform those Armenians who complained at the Darbar thereof; and we had hopes these threats might have been of use, but were informed afterwards that the ships, on which their goods were,* had fallen down the river before.

12. Under date the 2nd instant, the gentlemen at Cossimbazar enclosed us copy of a perwannah, and at the same time advised that the Nabob had heard of a fine Arab horse to be disposed off in Calcutta, which they believed would be very acceptable to him. Copy of the translate of the Perwannah and the President's reply we herewith send for Your Honour's notice.

13. The gentlemen at Dacca in a letter dated the 8th instant advised that positive orders arrived there from Muxadavad to put a stop to their business in general.

14. In reply to the above letters we acquainted the gentlemen at Cossimbazar that we should not be against their keeping the Darbar easy if to be done on reasonable terms, and sent them the horse which they informed us would be agreeable to the Nabob, to lay hold of a proper opportunity to present it to him, and to the gentlemen at Dacca that we should have been glad they had got away their bales, as they write a full stop is put to their business, which we hope will be shortly cleared from the President's answer to the Nabob's perwannah for that purpose.

15. The Export Warehouse keeper informing the Board the 5th instant that the merchants can bring in over and above their contracts about one hundred and seventy bales (170) of different sortments of goods, *viz.*, Coopees, Cossaes, Cossajurah, Hummums, Mulmuls, Santipore Mulmuls, Cossajurah, do. do., fine Nillacs, Soosies and Terrendams, and as at this juncture they may be serviceable to Your Honours and of aid to our tonnage, we agreed to accept the same.

16. Under date the 15th October the gentlemen at Bombay advised us that they had received information that the messenger they had sent to the Sou Rajah to obtain redress for the seizure of Your Honour's raw silk, was arrived there, but were then unacquainted with the reception he met with, or whether it will have the desired effect.

17. By a letter bearing date the 18th instant, the gentlemen at Cossimbazar acquainted us that our boats were stopped at Sydabad, and that they had informed the Armenias of our threatening not to permit their ships to pass this fort which had not then the wished-for effect; that what silk and silk piece-goods they should be able to procure this season would be in readiness to be sent down by the 8th of next month which they presumed we would send a strong party to escort, which party was accordingly ordered in our Consultation of the 23rd instant, and the gentlemen at Cossimbazar advised thereof.

18. The 11th instant the zemindar acquainting us that the road on the wharf to Sootamally Market was washed away by the river, whereby Your Honours' revenues arising from that bazar suffered great prejudice, we ordered him to rebuild the same by taxing the merchants who lived thereabouts in proportion to their ground.

19. We herewith transmit Your Honours the account revenues from October 1747 to October 1748, also an account of the losses and gains in the zemindary for three years past.

20. In our addresss per *Swallow Snow*, we acquainted Your Honours that we were in want of covenanted servants for carrying on the business of your offices, which we again take the liberty to request you will supply us with, as also to enclose the petition from Messrs. William Powney and John Wood to be entertained here as such, they having assisted in your offices some time past without any gratuity.

21. The gentlemen at Jugdea having mentioned in their letter to have sent their account current by the way of Dacca, and the same not being come to hand, we on the 24th December wrote to them as also to the gentlemen at Dacca, to forward the same with the utmost expedition, and then ordered the Accomptant to bring up the books of this Presidency without it, which account current arrived since on the 23rd instant.

22. On the 5th instant the Accomptant laid before us the account earnings of Your Honours' sloops to the 30th April last, with their several open accounts current, which having been carefully examined and the Master Attendant consulted in regard to the present value of each sloop, which being inserted and the difference wrote off to profit and loss, the accounts were closed.

23. The Accomptant laid before us the 9th instant the merchants' accounts anno 1745, whereby it appearing that a transfer from Radokissen Cawne's account for five thousand nine hundred and fifty-five rupees seven annas and three pie (5,955-7-3) to Luckicond Seat's account was wrote back to the other merchants' account in that sett, which account they refused signing, alleging that Luckicond Seat never acquainted them thereof, which he on the other hand asserted he did, upon which the question was put whether when any one of the sett was broke. the whole body is answerable to make good the balance, and particularly in this case whether it shall stand to the merchants' names as it does now in Your Honours' books, or be transferred to Luckicond Seat's account, when we all agreed that it should stand to the several merchants' names as it was, and the merchants were accordingly ordered to sign their accounts.

24. The 16th instant the Accomptant acquainting us that he was then upon striking the balance of the General Books, and that it was impossible for him to proceed therein till the affair was settled with those merchants for whom Bulram Cotmah was security, and having received a petition from Bulram Cotmah in relation thereto, copy whereof is enclosed, we took the same into consideration the 19th, when the majority of the Board being of opinion that he ought to make good the balance due from his sett to Your Honours, immediately we ordered the Accomptant to transfer the balances due from them to his account, which transfer, if not sufficient, we shall demand the balance of him. However, we take the liberty to mention to Your Honours that we look upon the allegations in his petition to be matter of fact, and therefore not unworthy of your consideration.

25. The 20th instant the Accomptant brought in the profit and loss article, the balance then being ten lack, twenty-three thousand five hundred and seventy-nine rupees fourteen annas and nine pie (10,23,579-14-9), which exclusive of the loss occasioned by the Morattoes plundering of the raw silk and increase of interest, appears to be much the same as last year.

26. The gentlemen at Dacca in a letter dated the 16th instant, in answer to our remarks on their investment of which we advised Your Honours in our address per *Lapwing*, write that though the fine Allibaллies may appear in the outward fold near as good as the superfine, yet as they are Cuttall[*] goods, they fall very considerably in the inward folds, which is not the case of the superfine, they holding their goodness throughout, besides there being the difference of one hundred and fifty threads (150) in those sortments. That the Seerhandconna are agreeable to their musters and instructions in their list of investment, and that the Nainsooks are four annas per piece cheaper than any sort last year except seventeen pieces which were despatched at the close of the season. In the same letter they advise that the Government have not only put a stop to their business, but have taken Mutchulkas[†] from the Moodys not to supply them with any provisions.

27. The gentlemen at Cossimbazar, under date the 21st instant, enclose a letter from Coja Wazeed to the President, to which a speedy answer was desired, he staying at Muxadavad on that account only; they advised at the same time

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[*] Cuttall—Kattul Tam. Protection—preserving—watching—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

[†] *Mutchulka*—Muchalka—Moolchulka-H-or Muchchilika incorrectly Muchilka Tel.—A written obligation or agreement, a bond, a deed, it is commonly applied to a counterpart covenant, on the part of the proprietors or cultivators of land, agreeing to the rates of assessment imposed by the Government, also an engagement under a penalty to observe the conditions of any deed or grant or to one exacted from thieves or suspected persons engaging to desist or refrain from any illegal acts; or to one from superior police and other officer engaging to be responsible for the conduct of the subordinates appointed by themselves, or to any penal recognisance which may be required by a Magistrate—*Ibid.*

that they were unacquainted with the purport of the letter, but were informed that a clearance of their business depended upon him alone, to which we yesterday replied that the purport of Coja Wazeed's letter was concerning the complaint of the Armenians, Moguls, &c., about the Bussorah and Juddah ships, to which the President has sent an answer acquainting him it was out of our power to give them any redress, but should always use our best offices for their advantage, so hope that our business will meet with no further interruption.

28. In this packet we send Your Honours duplicates of the account sale of goods in the Import Warehouse as specified in the list thereof, together with duplicate of our indent and the price current of Europe commodities here.

29. The indent of stores wanted here we likewise transmit Your Honours, as also the price current of stores anno 1748, together with the account remains of stores here the 31st October 1748 and abstract thereof for last year.

30. Enclosed is a list of Coral imported here since the year 1746, which has not been hitherto claimed, copy whereof we shall forward to the coast by the first conveyance.

31. We are now to advise Your Honours of the several sums for which we have granted bills of exchange payable ninety days after sight as usual, and first of these granted to Your Honours' covenanted servants at two shillings and four pence each rupee who have been duly sworn, that the same is on the following accounts:—

	£	s.	d.
On the 26th January, of Messrs Fytche and Burrow on their own account, thirty thousand two hundred and fifty-eight rupees twelve annas and nine pie (30,258-12-9), payable to William Dunson, Esq., or order at 2*s*.-4*d*. each, is	3,530	3	10
On the 26th January, of William Fytche, Esq., on his own account, seven hundred and eighty-seven rupees three annas and nine pie (787-3-9), payable to Messrs. Gosling and Bennet, or order at 2*s*.-4*d*. each	91	16	11
On the 26th January, of Mr. John Hipwood, on his own account, sixty-six rupees (66), payable to Mrs. Hannah Hipwood, or order at 2*s*.-4*d*. each	7	14	0

32. The whole amount of sums for which we have drawn bills at two shillings and four pence each rupee is thirty-one thousand one hundred and two rupees and six pie (31,102-0-6) or £3,629-14-9.

33. We have likewise granted bills of exchange at two shillings and two pence each rupee for the following sums, *viz.*—

	£	s.	d.
On the 5th January, of Messrs. Fytche and Burrow, account Miss Elizabeth Torriano, eleven thousand two hundred and nine-two rupees six annas and three pie (11,292-6-3), payable to Richard Benyon and Thomas Halls, Esqs., at 2*s*.-2*d*. each, is	1,223	6	10
On the 18th January, of Messrs. Fytche, Burrow and Orme, account the estate of Mr. John Saunders, one hundred and twenty-eight thousand nine hundred and eighty-nine rupees eight annas and six pie (1,28,989-8-6), payable to John Horn and Edmund Godfrey, Esqs., or order at 2*s*.-2*d*. each	13,973	17	4
On the 26th January, of Mr. Torriano Bodley, account Mr. James Meredith, one hundred and eighty-four rupees nine annas and nine pie (184-9-9), payable to Mr. Thomas Barrat, or order at 2*s*.-2*d*. each	20	0	0
On the 26th January, of Mr. John Zephaniah Holwell, four hundred and thirty-five rupees three annas and nine pie (435-3-9), payable to Messrs. Gosling and Bennet, or order at 2*s*. 2*d*. each, is	47	3	0

34. The whole amount of sums for which we have drawn bills at two shillings and two pence each rupee is one hundred and forty thousand nine hundred and one rupees twelve annas and three pie (1,40,901-12-3) or £15,264-7-2.

35. Enclosed is a manifest of private trade laden on the *Exeter* to which the captain has been duly sworn.

36. We have laden in this ship sundry goods and merchandize as per invoice and bill of lading enclosed amounting to seven lacks and thirty-one thousand current rupees (7,31,000).

37. Mr. Roger Drake, who dispatches this ship, will advise Your Honours of the necessaries from Ingellie.

38. We wish her a safe and speedy passage to Your Honours, and are with the utmost respect,

May it please Your Honours,

Your most faithful and most humble servants,

WILL. BARWELL.
GEO. PATTLE.
T. DAWSON.
HUM. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
ROGER DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 27th January 1748-49.

Transcribed,

p. JOHN COOKE.

And examined with

JAMES VALICOURT.

P.S.—By private advices from Bombay we are informed that the *Durrington* and *Stratham* arrived there the 20th October from St. Augustin's, which place they sailed from the 19th August, where they left the *Houghton*, who lost her passage round the Cape, having lost her bow-sprit and foremast.

TO—THE HON'BLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS
for affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England
trading to th East Indies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,—Under date the 27th ultimo, we addressed Your Honours by the *Exeter*, which ship was dispatched by Mr. Roger Drake, the 1st instant, from Ingellie, when she drew seventeen feet nine inches water forward (ft. 17-9) and seventeen feet three inches abaft (ft. 17-3). Duplicate of said address comes herewith.

2. Your Honour's ships, *Royal George* and *Rhoda*, being arrived from the coast, Captain Thomas Field, the Commander of the former, sent in a letter to the Board the 2nd instant to advise us that Admiral Boscowen had sent him down here to take in provisions for the fleet, but finding by information from the Agents that there would not be sufficient lading for him, he requested us to order three thousand bags (3,000) of rice to be laden on board him for Fort St. David Garrison, which quantity he judged would be sufficient to complete his tonnage, and Captain John McNemarra, Commander of the latter, having sent in a letter to the same purpose, we ordered that quantity to be purchased and laden on board them, and we judge those ships will be ready to sail about the 25th instant.

3. The Governor and Council of Fort St. David having wrote to us about the badness of the wheat sent them up per *Colechester*, we called upon Mr. Bellamy, then Buxey, to know how it happened, who referred us to the Consultation of the 27th February 1747-48, where it appears to be purchased by the Board, there being at that time no other wheat in the place; and the *Colechester* not being then able to proceed to the coast, the wheat lay in our godoens the last rains, which must consequently prejudice it.

4. Enclosed we send Your Honours Captain Benson's requests for the severals sums of money, which have been advanced him for the use and expenses of the *Eastcourt* with one of the bonds he has executed for the same, together with the bonds entered into by Captain William Weston for the money granted him for the expenses for the *Exeter.*

5. This ship was duly surveyed by the Master Attendant, before we proceeded to lade bales on her; as by the Captain's request and Master Attendant's report herewith transmitted.

6. The gentlemen at Dacca have since our last address informed us that their affairs remain in the same situation as when they wrote us last, and by letters from Messrs. Blackford and Bellamy at Jugdea we are informed the like stop is put to business there, and that it is a great favour that they can procure common subsistence.

7. We are now to advise Your Honours of the several sums for which we have granted bills of exchange payable ninety days after sight as usual, and first of those granted at two shillings and four pence per rupee (2*s.* 4*d.*) to your covenanted servants, who have been duly sworn that the money so paid in is on the following accounts, *viz.*—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
On the 30th January, of Mrs. Alice Forster, account coral, three thousand two hundred and twenty-nine rupees one anna nine pie (3,229-1-9), payable to Mr. Jacob Dias, or order at 2*s.* 4*d.* each, is	376	14	7
On 30th January, of Mrs. Alice Forster, account coral, sixteen thousand nine hundred and ninety rupees thirteen annas nine pie (16,990-13-9), payable to Mr. Lewis Mendez, or order at 2*s.* 4*d.* each, is	1,983	1	8
On the 2nd February, of William Fytche, Esq., on his own account, two hundred fifty-seven repees two annas and three pie (257-2-3), payable to Richard Benyon, Esq., or order at 2*s.* 4*d.* each, is	30	0	0
On the 6th February, of William Kempe, Esq., and William Lyndsay, account Mr. George Heath, six hundred rupees (600), payable to Mr. George Heath, or order at 2*s.* 4*d.* each, is	70	0	0
On the 6th February, of William Kempe, Esq., on his own account, one hundred and seventy-one rupees six annas nine pie (171-6-9), payable to Christopher Wyiell, Esq., and Mrs. Anne Kempe, or order at 2*s.* 4*d.* each, is	20	0	0
On 6th February, of Messrs. Fytche and Burrow, account Doctor Stephen Lightfoot, six hundred and fifty rupees eleven annas and three pie (650-11-3), payable to Mr. Richard Boddicote, or order at 2*s.* 4*d.* each, is	75	18	3

8. The whole amount of sums for which we have granted bills of exchange at two shillings and four pence each rupee is twenty-one thousand nine hundred and six rupees three annas and nine pie (21,906-3-9) or £2,555-14-6.

9. We have likewise granted bills of exchange at two shillings and two pence each rupee for the following sums, *viz.*—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
On the 7th February, of Mr. Thomas Cooke, account Mr. Miles Barnes, three hundred and ninety-six rupees fourteen annas nine pie (396-14-9), payable to Mr. Miles Barnes, or order at 2*s.* 2*d.* each, is	43	0	0

	£	s.	d.
On the 7th February, of Mr. Thomas Cooke, account Captain Richard Thelwall, eight hundred and fifty-one rupees one anna and three pie (851-1-3), payable to Captain Richard Thelwall, or order at 2*s.* 2*d.* each, is . . .	92	4	0
Of Messrs. Fytche Burrow and Orme, account Richard Nevill, Esq., one thousand four hundred and ninety-six rupees eleven annas three pie (1,496-11-3), payable to Richard Nevill, Esq., or order at 2*s.* 2*d.* each, is	162	2	10
Of Mr. James Senegat, nine thousand and seven rupees seven annas and nine pie (9,007-7-9), payable to himself, or order at 2*s.* 2*d.* each, is	975	16	2
Of Mr. James Ross, two hundred and eighteen rupees (218), payable to Mr. James Gay, or order at 2*s.* 2*d.* each, is . .	23	12	4
On the 11th February, of Messrs. Fytche, Burrow and Orme, account Mrs. Sarah Hawkins, three hundred and sixty-nine rupees three annas nine pie (369-3-9), payable to Messrs. Gosling and Bennet, or order at 2*s.* 2*d.* each, is . .	40	0	0
On the 11th February. of Captain John Coales nine hundred and twenty-three rupees one anna three pie (923-1-3), payable to Messrs. Gosling and Bennet, or order at 2*s.* 2*d.* each, is	100	0	0

10. The whole amount of sums which we have granted bills of exchange at two shillings and two pence each rupee is thirteen thousand two hundred and sixty-two rupees eight annas (13,262-8) or £1,486-15-4.

11. We have also granted three certificates of one tenour and date for each of the following sums, one of which being accomplished the other two to become void, *viz.*—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
On the 6th February, of Mrs. Alice Forster, account the estate of John Hope, Esq.	1,521	11	3
Of Mr. William Lyndsay, account Captain Thomas Stevens	933	6	0
On the 11th February, of Messrs. Fytche and Burrow, account Captain Mathew Court	1,000	0	0

12. The whole amount of sums for which we have granted three certificates as above is three thousand four hundred and fifty-five rupees one anna three pie (3,455-1-3).

13. Since closing the register of bills of exchange at two shillings and four pence each rupee, we have granted the following bills at that rate, the amount thereof being made good here, *viz.*—

	£	s.	d.
On the 11th February, of Edward Holdon Cruttenden, Esq., one thousand seven hundred and fourteen rupees four annas and six pie (1,714-4-6), payable to Mr. Robert Cliff, or order at 2*s.* 4*d.* each, is	200	0	0
Of Mr. Robert Orme, three hundred and forty rupees (340), payable to Mr. Benjamin Allen, or order at 2*s.* 4*d.* each, is	39	13	4

14. Your Honour's ship the *Prince William,* Captain William Webber, is now under despatch from Ingellie, for Suratt and Bombay, having on board sundry gruff goods and broad-cloth amounting to one hundred and twenty-five thousand four hundred and seventy-six rupees and three pies (1,25,476-0-3), exclusive of freight which amounts to sixteen thousand three hundred and thirty-eight rupees fourteen annas six pie (16,338-14-6).

15. We have now the pleasure to advise Your Honours of the safe arrival here of the *Sommerset,* Captain Tolson, who acquaints us that he parted with the *Pelham Indiaman* twelve degrees (12) to the southward of the line.

16. We have received Your Honour's commands of the 17th June 1748, with copies of your orders under date the 9th March and 18th May preceding. In obedience thereto Captain Nathaniel Jacobs was this day dismissed the military service and the charge of his company conferred on Captain George

Minchin, who came on the same sett, till the arrival of Major Moseman, when Your Honours' regulations for the military and artillery shall be punctually observed.

17. We beg leave at present to defer replying to the other parts of your commands by this ship till the dispatch of the *Bombay Castle,* which ship is detained for the arrival of the Cossimbazar goods which we expect in a few days.

18. Enclosed is invoice and bills of lading of sundries laden on board the *Eastcourt* amounting to seven lacks and eighty thousand rupees (7,80,000).

19. The State of Dacca Factory not being yet arrived obliges us to send Your Honours an open account current of this Presidency which we shall transmit closed by the *Bombay Castle.*

20. Mr. Edward Eyles who dispatches this vessel from Ingellie will advise Your Honours of the necessaries from thence.

21. We wish her a safe and speedy passage to Your Honours, and are with the utmost respect,

May it please Your Honours,
Your most faithful and most humble servants,

WILL. BARWELL.
GEO. PATTLE.
T. DAWSON.
HUM. BELLAMY.
W. KEMPE.
E. EYLES.
ROGER DRAKE.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 11th February 1748-49.

Transcribed,
p. JOHN COOKE.
And examined with
JAMES VALICOURT.

TO—THE HON'BLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS
for the affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England
trading to the East Indies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,—The gentlemen at Fort St. David having advised us that they intend despatching two of Your Honour's ships to Europe in September and conveyance now offering to the coast, we lay hold of the opportunity to enclose Your Honour's duplicate of our last address under date the 25th of February per *Bombay Castle* which ship was dispatched by Mr. Edward Holdon Cruttenden from Ingellie the 2nd of March, when she drew 17 feet 5 inches water forward and 18 feet 3 inches abaft. We shall now proceed to give Your Honours an account of your affairs under our management since that time ranging the same under the usual heads; and

FIRST, CONCERNING SHIPPING.

2. By the *Hawke* sloop built for the service of this Presidency which imported here the 27th of February last from the coast, the President and Council there forwarded to us Your Honours' commands by the *Tarter*

Man-of-war and *Pelham Indiaman*, which being opened were found to be the same as those received per *Somerset.*

3. In their advices by that sloop they acquainted us they were then coining the bullion received per *Tarter* and *Pelham* into rupees, fifteen chests whereof they sent us by that conveyance and fifteen more by the *Fort William*, a country-ship then bound to this port, and at the same time they requested us to send them a large supply of petre to keep in store for any occasion that might offer.

4. On the 3rd of March the *Fort William* arrived here with the fifteen chests of treasure mentioned in the foregoing advices.

5. Your Honours' ships, the *Royal George* and *Rhoda*, were dispatched from hence to the coast the 23rd of February, and the Buxey informing us on the 30th of March, that part of the rice designed for those ships was lost in the way down. An account whereof he then laid before us amounting to two thousand four hundred and ten maunds (2,410). We sent for the manjees and peons belonging to the boats on which this rice was laden, who on examination declared their boats were overset in a hard gale of wind they met with as they were going from Ingellie creek on board their ships.

6. Mr. William Fytche, store-keeper, acquainting us that Captain Browne, Commander of the *Bombay Castle*, carried away an anchor from Ingellie amounting to five hundred and fourteen rupees fifteen annas (514-15), and producing his mate's receipt for it, which his attorney refuses to take and discharge, we now transmit the same to Your Honours to be adjusted with his owners.

7. The 9th of May we received a letter from Mr. Edward Teddeman, chief mate of the *Edgbaston*, advising of his arrival at Culpee, of the death of Captain John Hereford, and of a violent storm which happened on the coast the 12th of April. Copy of his letter we herewith send Your Honours.

8. As Mr. Teddeman in the said letter esteemed it necessary that the *Edgbaston* should come up to town to be repaired and desired us to send him an anchor and cable to Culpee, we gave him permission to bring her up accordingly and ordered the Store-keeper to supply him with a cable and anchor.

9. On the 23rd of May the *Edgbaston* being arrived at town and having no objection to the capacity or character of Mr. Edward Teddeman, the chief mate, we ordered our Secretary to repair on board to confirm him in the command.

10. Under date the 8th of April the gentlemen at Fort St. David wrote to us that they had agreed with the owners of the *Success*, a countryship, to call in at Durassapatam in her passage to the Bay and take in such part of the redwood we had wrote for as she was able, and that they would send us an account as soon as they were furnished with the receipt that the master had orders to give for the quantity he took in. She arrived here the 3rd of May, and the Captain delivered us one hundred and eighty-one pieces (181) weighing factory maunds three hundred and eighty-six and five seers (386-5), of which we advised the gentlemen at the coast.

11. By the *Essex*, a countryship, which imported here the 29th May from Fort St. David, the President and Council advised us of the arrival there of His Majesty's ship the *Syren* with fifty (50) chests of treasure consigned to us which they took out to enable them to send the *Pelham* and *Somerset* to China. At the same time they forwarded Your Honour's commands of the 21st July.

12. Under date the 28th of May, the gentlemen on the coast forwarded the invoice of the redwood per *Success* and promised to send us a further supply as opportunity offered, requesting at the same time that we would furnish them with four thousand bags of saltpetre (4,000) for their kintladge by the earliest conveyance. We replied thereto under date the 14th of June and advised them of the arrival of the *Edgbaston* here, and if any of Your Honours' ships should go thither in August or any of the countryships should take it on easy terms, we intended to supply them with what saltpetre we could spare; that we had observed they had received the fifty chests (50) of bullion designed for

the service of this Presidency per *Syren* of which we were in hopes to have received some part, but our expectation being disappointed, we greatly feared it would prove very prejudicial to Your Honours' investments and desired them of taking all opportunities of sending us some supply.

13. The President and Council of Bombay in a letter dated the 11th of May advised us of the arrival of the *Prince William* there with the consignment of broad-cloth, iron, gunneys and twine, which were then landing. That as they esteemed it too late in the season for her to proceed to Surat, they would land her freight and transmit suitable directions to the Chief and Factors there to get the persons to whom it was consigned to consent their sending it thither by the first good conveyance that offered; they wrote us at the same time that the returning of the *Prince William* to us was uncertain as it depended on the setting in of the monsoon, however they directed Captain Webber to get his ship in readiness to proceed as soon as the season would permit, in such case they would consign us a cargo of cotton.

14. Your Honour's ship, the *Elizabeth*, Captain Wills Commander, imported here the 3rd instant from the coast, being sent from thence by the Admiral to carry up stores for the squadron. By her the Governor and Council there favoured us with the agreeable news of the arrival of Your Honour's ship, the *Griffin*, there, and then requested a further supply of two thousand bags of saltpetre (2,000) per *Edgbaston* and *Elizabeth* as they had obtained leave of the Admiral for it to be laden on board them. In consequence whereof we ordered the Warehouse-keeper to lade two thousand bags of that commodity on board the *Elizabeth*.

SECONDLY, CONCERNING GOODS FROM EUROPE.

15. On the 3rd of March we took into consideration the disposal of the bullion and treasure then lying in the warehouse, and came to the following result:—

To pay 17 chests of bullion to Futtichund,
12 do. of rupees to Dadney merchants,
7 do. of bullion to those merchants,

who provided ready money goods and six chests of bullion to Serrikisna, to reserve five chests of bullion for Cossimbazar, five chests for Dacca and four chests of rupees for Jugdea, and ordered the same to be disposed of accordingly, but Futtichund's gomastah refusing to take it at the rate he formerly used to do, and desiring to have it delivered him by the weight of the sicca rupee, we ordered his request to be complied with, it being a custom at Cossimbazar.

16. The gentlemen at Cossimbazar by a letter received from them the 13th of July informing us that the Seats advised them of their intentions to send their gomastah to settle their accounts, and therefore they desired to know what part of the above seventeen chests of bullion was paid on account of that Factory with the price and weight of it; that as the Seats would not permit them to endorse from off their interest notes the amount of the forty chests of bullion delivered them in Calcutta in March 1748 without a deduction of one per cent. thereon, they apprehended they would likewise demand one per cent. on what we paid them in March last account of that Factory, and therefore desired our orders thereon, as they seemed absolutely determined not to give it up, and they feared a dispute with them at this juncture may be attended with very bad consequences; in reply thereto, we directed them to inform the Seats that if they insisted on having the one per cent. deducted, we should choose rather to bring the whole to the Calcutta account.

17. On the 20th March we ordered the damaged goods then laying in Your Honours' warehouse to be sold at public outcry, and notice to be given as usual, the account sales thereof comes in the packet.

18. The Import Warehouse keeper informing us the 19th June that there were several pieces of broad-cloth laying open in the godown, and esteeming it a proper season to dispose of the poppinjay broad-cloth belonging to Your Honours, we agreed to put it up at outcry the 19th instant on the established

terms, and public notice was affixed at the Fort Gate as usual, but were obliged to defer the sale on account of the badness of the weather till the 22nd instant, when we agreed to put it up at the following prices, *viz.*—

Aurora	at 68 rupees per piece.
Poppinjay	at 49
Ordinary red	at 50
Yellow	at 51
Blue	at 49

19. Your Honours will herewith receive the account of what then sold, but finding no bidders for the red poppinjay and blue at the foregoing prices, we came to a resolution of trying those sortments again at outcry the 24th of next month, together with the woollen goods per *Walpole* as also those designed us per *Britannia* should she arrive by that time, of which we have given public notice as usual.

20. The 6th instant the damaged stores were surveyed by the Board and put up to sale the 13th following as per account thereof herewith transmitted Your Honours.

THIRDLY, CONCERNING INVESTMENTS.

21. The Export Warehouse-keeper lays before the Board the 20th March an account of the damaged goods in that warehouse which by order of the Board were put up to sale the 20th April. The account sales Your Honours will receive herewith.

22. On the 20th March we forwarded the list of goods to be provided at Ballasore to Mr. Henry Kelsall, with orders to comply therewith as near as possible and at the same time sent him a chest of rupees.

23. The gentlemen at Cossimbazar having wrote to us very pressingly for money, and particularly for the five chests of bullion we designed sending them. We under date the 30th March transmitted them our reasons for altering our intentions, which were that we esteemed the charges would run very high in sending a large party of guards with so small a sum of treasure that we were then endeavouring to procure a bill of exchange, which Ramkissen Seat having obtained for twenty-three thousand four hundred Sicca Rs. (23,400) on the 6th April, we forwarded the same.

24. On the 12th ultimo we received a letter from the gentlemen of Jugdea accompanying one hundred and thirty-three (133) bundles of brown cloth and three tuctacs of white which were dispatched from thence the 9th of January and arrived safe.

FOURTHLY, OF THE TRADE OF INDIA AND THEREIN ANY TRANSACTIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

25. In our address per *Bombay Castle* we acquainted Your Honours of the situation of affairs at Cossimbazar on account of the Armenians' complaint at the Darbar about the capture of the Judda and Bussorah ships, and that there was then no likelihood of soon obtaining a clearance to our business. It is with the utmost concern that we are to inform Your Honours that this stoppage to the currency of trade has ever since and does still continue, and in order to convince Your Honours that we have used all methods that could be thought of to bring the Nawab to temper, we shall now proceed to give your honours a particular account of our proceedings herein from time to time.

26. On the third of March we directed the gentlemen at Cossimbazar to apply to Hookum Beg and the Seats to induce them to assist us in finishing this affair, which, if they should be able to effect, we should not look upon a small present of about two thousand rupees as thrown away; they informed us by letter the 22nd of that month that they had made the application directed, but were told by those very persons that without a present to the Nabob it would be impossible to obtain a clearance to business, that the Nabob was then

encamped a little distance from the city with an intent to go in a few days on some expedition then unknown which, if true, they were apprehensive the stoppage would continue till his return.

27. As we were at a loss to judge what presents the Nabob might want, they not being explicit on that head, we wrote them in reply that we could not enter upon a full discussion thereof till the Darbar Ministers gave them a definite answer.

28. Under date the 6th April the gentlemen at Cossimbazar informed us that Carooly Beg came to their Factory and told them the Nabob expected they would satisfy the Armenians without any further delay, and for the present has ordered two hundred horsemen and two hundred Buxeries to be quartered on that Factory, that he himself was come as a mediator between them and the Armenians, and would do them all the good offices in his power. The Seats also advised them to make up this affair with the Nabob as soon as possible, that the longer they deferred it, the more money they must pay, but what sum would be sufficient for this they could not learn, nor till some advances were made by us; and under date the 10th following they wrote to us that the jemindar who commanded the forces put over them being dissatisfied at their not paying him and his people as usual, gave orders by beat of drum prohibiting all manner of provisions from coming into their factory.

29. In reply to the foregoing, we acquainted that Your Honours having taken notice of the large sums of money which have been extorted and paid the Nabob, and having frequently complained thereof as great leaks to your estate, we could not make any advances on such an affair as this, wherein Your Honours had nothing at all to do, and we therefore directed them to find out the Nabob's views and ends in indeavouring thus to distress the Company's affairs without any manner of reason when we should be the better able to take our measures, and told them it would be also very necessary to find out what would satisfy the Government; that in regard to the threats and vaunts of the jemindar and soldiers set upon their Factory, they were not to be regarded as they signified little to the decision of the main question.

30. Mr. Wake and Council of Bombay informed us by letter of the 13th of January that the messenger whom they had sent to the Sou Raja about Your Honours' raw silk which was plundered by the Morattoes was returned, but without any written answer from him, and from his trifling excuses they had no hopes of redress for the loss Your Honours sustained therein, but as the officer who made the seizure was expected to wait on him shortly, they intended in such case to renew their addresses.

31. The gentlemen at Cossimbazar by the advice of the Carooly Beg under date the 24th April desired us to procure a paper signed by the Armenians who resided here by way of an address from them to the Nabob in Persian expressing their satisfaction at what we had done and wrote in their behalf; that this, it was thought, might be of considerable service in the then posture of affairs; that the general opinion of the Nabob's distressing Your Honours' affairs was he wants to get a sum of money from each party; that it was thought some time before about fifty thousand (50,000) rupees would have composed matters, but before they can come to any certainty in regard to what he expects, offers must first be made on our side, and on the 4th May they forwarded two letters, one from Nunadges Mahmud Ceewne to the Nabob with his answer thereto, whereby we might perceive that the Nabob remained seemingly fixed in doing what he called justice to the Armenians.

32. In consequence of the above letter we ordered our Secretary to draw up a paper for the Armenians to sign when translated into Persian, and advised the gentlemen at Cossimbazar that when the Armenians had signed thereto, we should forward it to them, hoping it might prove satisfactory. At the same time we directed them when they heard any reasonable proposals made to advise us thereof as it was impossible for us to make any offer.

33. Mr. Henry Kelsall by a letter dated the 5th May advised us of the Morattoes being encamped within sight of the Kuttack Factory, and that the Nabob's forces were distant but 3 cose from that place; and under date the 8th following he wrote to us that Nilla Pundit with the command of a strong

party of the Morattoes Horse were encamped close to the Factory, and that their putting off the plundering of that place till the next morning was the saving of it, for as their horse entered the town the Nabob appeared and immediately sent part of his forces over the river and pursued them and got up with them in a very small time; that what their loss was he could not learn, the reports being various; that on the Nabob's arrival he sent the Vacqueels to him for permission to wait on him, which being granted, he met with a very gracious reception from the Nabob, who asked him if he had been to visit Meerabib, but on informing him that he had not, he seemed exceedingly well pleased and told him when he returned whatever he asked should be granted.

34. On receipt of those letters, we wrote to Mr. Kelsall that we were pleased to observe the gracious reception he met with from the Nabob, and as the troubles at Cossimbazar still continued, we would have him visit him again and deliver him an Arsdast from the President which we then transmitted him.

35. Under date the 19th May he wrote to us that the Nabob was encamped within three leagues of Cuttack, and that he hourly expected to hear the news of Meerabib's and Anga Sheriff's being delivered into the Nabob's hands by their own Jemindar; and two days following he advised us that some of the people whom he had sent to follow the Nabob's army were returned with the news of his having entered Cuttack; that on his approach Meerabib with the Marattoes fled; that five of the head Jemindars surrendered themselves to the Nabob, who immediately cut off their heads; that no judgment could at that time be formed how long the Nabob would stay there, as Dulubram and Mir Jaffir to both of whom he offered the Nabobship having refused it, as they doubted not but the Morattoes would return next season.

36. As we had not received any encouragement from Cossimbazar concerning the clearance of our business, and Mr. Kelsall being near the Nabob, we directed him to use his utmost endeavours to get an order from him for the clearance thereof; in order for which to represent to him that this affair was as prejudicial to him as to Your Honours, and if he stopped the business much longer it would be impossible to do any this season, which clearance if he could procure we doubted not but Your Honours would esteem it a service done you.

37. The Armenians having delivered us an address in Persian, we ordered the same to be translated and took it into consideration the 1st of June when they attended the Board and were asked to sign the paper to the Nabob which they then declared they would not. Copy of the paper drawn up for the Armenians to sign as also their address to the Board we now enclose to Your Honours.

38. This refusal of the Armenians putting a stop to any hopes of accommodating the dispute with the Nabob and throwing our dependance entirely upon his favour, the President asked the opinion of the Board how to proceed with regard to the Armenians. When we are of opinion they ought to be acquainted that in case Your Honours were obliged to pay any money to the Darbar if they do not consent to repay the same, we should after the expiration of two months withdraw from them Your Honours' protection and dismiss them the town. And the Armenians were accordingly called in and acquainted therewith. Mr. William Kempe then gave it as his opinion that the staying two months might impede Your Honours' business so far as to prevent our getting a tonnage for your shipping, and therefore they ought to be forced to satisfy the Nabob immediately; we at the same time wrote to the gentlemen at Cossimbazar and advised them of the Armenians' refusal as also of our orders to Mr. Kelsall for obtaining from the Nabob a clearance to Your Honour's business, and directed them to use their endeavours to obtain such clearance either through the Nabob's favour or else on easy terms, for which purpose we permitted them to offer as fifteen or twenty thousand rupees (20,000).

39. The gentlemen at Cossimbazar in reply to the foregoing, under date the 14th of June, wrote to us that they had applied to the Seats and Biramdutt, from whom they understood that nothing could be done till the arrival of the Nabob at Muxadavad, and that they were of opinion the sum we limited them to give would be too small (if the Nabob should favour them so far as to take nothing for himself) for the forces that were put up over them and would be

rejected with contempt, and therefore they should be glad to know the utmost extent of what we intended to give in order to expedite this business as soon as possible on the Nabob's arrival at Muxadavad.

40. Mr. Kelsall, under date the 9th ultimo, wrote us that the Nabob arrived there three days before, to whom he delivered the President's arsdast; that the Nabob told him he was resolved to befriend the English and desire him to transport his cannon and ammunition to Calcutta with the utmost expedition, the roads being so bad he could not carry them with him; he then obeyed our orders in representing to him how prejudicial this stoppage would be as well to his revenues as to Your Honours' investment, and asked him what we were to expect, to which the Nabob replied he would finish the affair on his arrival at Muxadavad, and then gave him a letter for the President.

41. We then wrote to the Gentlemen at Cossimbazar and enclosed them a copy of Mr. Kelsall's letter, which gave us hopes that they would be able to accommodate matters on the Nabob's return without exceeding the former sum limited for that purpose any great matter.

42. Under date the 10th instant, the Gentlemen at Cossimbazar advised us of the Nabob's return on the 7th, when they sent their Vacqueels to wait on him, whom he asked if they had procured the Raudjee Nomma from the Armenians in Calcutta, to which they replied in the negative and gave for reason that the Armenians were fearful to give such declaration under their hands, lest they should be obliged to pay the choute; that the Nabob then said he would give them a Mutchulca under his own hand not to take a rupee from them, and asked them if Mr. Kelsall was arrived agreeable to a promise made him when at Ballasore and spoke much in that gentleman's commendation, from whence they judged that he would be the most acceptable person that could be sent him to extricate Your Honours from those troubles.

43. In consequence of the foregoing letter we ordered Mr. Kelsall to proceed to Cossimbazar and advised the Gentlemen there that they might send him to the Darbar, after which to acquaint us from time to time how this affair went on and what probability there might be of success. We sent him at the same time a paper delivered us by the Armenians with a translate thereof in Persian to make such use as they might see advantageous. Copy of the said address comes enclosed.

FIFTHLY, OF REVENUES.

44. Mr. Edward Eyles, Jemindar, acquainted the Board on the 13th of March that he had used all means possible to get the merchants to acquiesce to an order of Council for making a wharf to the road leading to Soota Loota Bazar, without which it would be in danger of being quite washed away next rains and thereby extremely prejudicial to Your Honours' revenues arising from that bazar, but to no effect. We ordered him then to repair the same out of Your Honours' cash, and that the merchants' accounts current should be debited for that amount.

45. Rogometre and Monickdutt, two Banians whom we ordered to inspect Ranmant Bose's books, reported to the Board that he was willing to pay the annual two thousand rupees in part of his debt, but not being then in cash he requested us to accept of a transfer to Otteram's Dadney Accounts which we agreed to, and in case he should fail in making such annual payment, we shall proceed agreeable to your directions in the thirty-first paragraph of your orders per *Somerset*.

SIXTHLY, CONCERNING FACTORS, WRITERS, OFFICERS, AND THEIR ACCOUNTS.

46. On the 28th February Lieutenant Sanderson with thirty-five soldiers of the Bengal detachment arrived here in the *Hawk* sloop from Fort St. David and on the 3rd of March Lieutenant Usgate with eighty men under his command imported here in the *Fort William*, one of our country ships.

47. The same day Major James Moseman with Captain Lieutenant Martin Bennet and Lieutenant David Clayton arrived here and were presented at the head of the Military and their Commissions read.

48. Major James Moseman on the 3rd of March took his seat at the Board as third agreeable to Your Honours' orders and was then directed to inspect the gunroom crew, and advise the Buxey when he thought it would be necessary to stop their pay as the Artillery Company was to be formed therefrom; they were accordingly dismissed the 15th following.

49. We ordered Mr. Roger Drake, Military Store-Keeper, to enter on his office the 20th of March, and for that purpose directed him to receive from the & Store-Keeper General and Gunner the stores, &c., belonging to the Military, the receipts for which were signed in Council.

50, Captain Thomas Fenwick addressed the Board by letter on the 20th of March requesting us as we had presented Captain John Holland to the command of his Company, and the two new raised Companies were commanded by the officers from Europe to order him his rank agreeable to his Commission as Captain and to succeed to the first vacancy which we complied with.

51. On the 15th of March Mr. Charles Dennot, one of Your Honours' covenanted servants, departed this life of a flux.

52. We wrote to the gentlemen at Cossimbazar and Dacca the 20th March and directed their Commanding Officer to transmit the Major a return of the number of military at those places, inserting their names and the Company's to which they belonged, as also to transmit us a list of all their Ordnance whether great guns, mortars, royals, cohorn, pattararoes, expressing their several lengths and weights with their dimensions at the base, trunnion and muzzle, which they have since complied with.

53. The President on the 30th of March acquainted the Board that he had received a letter from Mr. James Blackford advising him that he was so much indisposed at Jugdea that it would be necessary for him to come to Calcutta to recover his health, and Mr. Thomas Bellamy having desired leave to quit that Factory, we then agreed to take into consideration the next day who were proper persons to send thither in their room to carry on Your Honours' business, and then we appointed Mr. William Watts Chief and Mr. Peter Amyat Second.

54. Major Moseman having layed before the Board on the 30th of March a list of invalids who were unfit for service, at which time we then ordered the Buxey to form a pension list in the charges general, and allow the Europeans eight rupees per mensem and the Blacks four.

55. Major James Moseman departed this life of a fever on the 30th of April, whereby a seat at this Board becoming vacant which was filled up by Mr Edward Holden Cruttenden on the 4th of May, when we ordered Captain Robert Hamilton to act as Commandant of this garrison, and a Captain's Commission to be drawn out for Captain Thomas Fenwick to command the fifth Company.

56. The Command of a Company here becoming vacant by the death of Captain John Whiting who departed this life of a fever on the 15th of May, we ordered a Captain's Commission to be drawn out for Captain Lieutenant Martin Bennet.

57. On the 24th of the same month Captain Commandant Robert Hamilton departed this life of a fever, when we ordered a Commandant's Commission to be drawn out for Captain John Holland, as he was next in standing and bore a Commandant's Commission on the coast, and at the same time agreed to give him the monthly allowance of a Member of the Board in consideration of his superior trouble in the care of the garrison.

58. Lieutenants David Clayton, Thomas Sewell and Ensign Chase sent in their petitions to the Board on the 29th May, setting forth that on entering into Your Honours' service they were then promised that all right of succession to vacancies should be conferred on no other officers than those at that time promoted, and requested that they might succeed thereto accordingly, which petitions we took into consideration, and then agreed that the old and new officers should succeed to vacancies as they happened, turn and turn, and that the Command then vacant should be conferred on Lieutenant Charles Butterwicke, who had the command of the military at Dacca, to which place we sent orders for him to return to Calcutta.

59. On the 12th of June we ordered a Captain's Commission to be drawn out for Lieutenant David Clayton to fill up the vacancy occasioned by the death of Captain Martin Bennet, who departed this life of a fever and flux on the 6th of the month.

60. Mrs. Chatharine Hamilton, relict of our late Commandant, petitioned us on the 19th of June for an allowance for herself and family, which we took into consideration the 26th and then ordered the Buxey to allow her the same as the widow of Major Hunt received, *viz.*, Rs. 35 per mensem. Copy of her petition we hereby transmit Your Honours.

SUPPLEMENT.

61. We have now the pleasure to congratulate Your Honours on the safe arrival here of the *Walpole* and *Tavistock*, the former on the 19th instant, and the latter on the 26th. By those ships we were favoured with your commands of the 2nd and 21st December 1748 and 27th of January 1748-49.

62. In obedience to Your Honours' orders of the 18th of January, Adam Dawson, Esq., received the charge of the Factory from William Barwell, Esq., together with the balance of cash, one of the keys of the Treasury, as also the Royal Phermaunds, Merchants' Teeps and contracts, with all other papers belonging to Your Honours, for which regular receipts were signed.

63. As the death of Major James Moseman occasioned a vacancy in Council, Mr. Thomas Burrow being next in standing was sent for and admitted to his seat at the Board.

64. The Chiefship of Cossimbazar becoming vacant by the dismission of Mr. Wadham Brooke from your service, we appointed Mr. Edward Eyles to take the charge thereof, esteeming him from his great experience there to be a fit person in the present posture of affairs to succeed him, and we wrote to the gentlemen at Cossimbazar to direct Mr. Richard Becher to receive the charge of that Factory from Mr. Brook till Mr. Eyle's arrival.

65. Your Honours having been pleased to appoint Mr. Nicholas Clerimbault to be your chief at Dacca, we advised the gentlemen thereof and directed Mr. Thomas Teake to deliver over the charge thereof to him as soon as he conveniently could and then to repair to his seat at the Board here.

66. The alterations in Council occasioning a change of the posts at the Board here, we settled them as follows, *viz.*—

Mr. Teake, Accomptant.
Mr. Bellamy, Export Warehouse-keeper, and to take charge of the books till Mr. Teake's arrival.
Mr. Ffytche, Import Warehouse-keeper.
Mr. Drake Buxey, and to continue Military Storekeeper till Mr. Blackford's arrival.
Mr. Cruttenden, Jemindar.
Mr. Rooper, Storekeeper.
Mr. Blackford, Military Storekeeper.
Mr. Watts, Collector of Consulage.
Mr. Burrow, to continue sub-Treasurer till an employ is vacant.

67. Agreeable to Your Honours' orders we took an oath to be true and faithful to Your Honours, and shall write to our friends in England to give the usual security.

68. We have acquainted Mr. James Irwin that Your Honours thought proper to employ him in your service as a junior merchant, for which favour he desires his humble thanks to be returned Your Honours. The covenants designed for him to execute were omitted to be sent per *Walpole*, but he has our orders to write to his friends to give the usual security.

69. On the 21st instant, Mr. William Ffytche, as Major Moseman was dead, desired his seat as third of this Board agreeable to Your Honours orders' in the 54th paragraph of your commands per *Walpole;* when the President asked the opinion of the Board thereon, the majority of the Members thinking he ought

to take his seat as third till Your Honours' pleasure was known. He was admitted thereto accordingly, and there ordered to take charge of the general books as also of the Export Warehouse till the arrival of Mr. Teake.

70. As Mr. Watts being taken into Council occasioned a new appointment of a chief of Jugdea, we appointed Mr. William Bailie Chief, and on Mr. Petre Amyat's request to stay here on account of his health, we appointed Mr. Charles Stafford Playdell Second of that Factory and ordered them to set out thither with all expedition.

71. As the Governor and Council of Fort St. David indented for six thousand bags of saltpetre to be sent them, we wrote them we should comply therewith, and ordered two thousand bags to be laden on board the *Elizabeth* of which quantity the Captain could only take in fifteen hundred, and as Your Honours in the seventh paragraph of your orders per *Tavistocke* positively forbid us to purchase more saltpetre than what might be necessary for the Charter Party kintladge of your ships, as you had a large quantity thereof in your warehouses at home and were in expectation of more, and as you directed that those ships whose Charter Party kintladge consisted of iron and stones should not have any saltpetre laden on board them, we came to a resolution of sending them no more petre than we had laden on the *Elizabeth*, and of this have advised the President and Council there.

72. On the 27th of July, Your Honours' ship the *Tavistocke* imported here from Madeira, the supply of wine Your Honours have sent us on her is now landing, and in our next address we shall advise you how it turns out.

73. As the *Tavistocke* had stores for the King's Squadron on board and a supply of wine for Fort St. David, we asked the Captain his reasons for not touching at the coast, to which he requested to reply in writing, and we shall transmit the same to Your Honours by the next conveyance. We then asked Captain Cush if he could get his ship in readiness to proceed to the coast, to which he replied he would use his utmost endeavours to sail as soon as possible after we had landed the wine and stores designed for the use of this place, but on unlading his ship, he informed us by letter that he found a great many drains in her sides which made it requisite to caulke them all round, and that having sprung two topmasts and broke her main yard, it would be impossible to get on the coast before the monsoons set in.

74. Hereupon we resolved to return Your Honours, the *Snow*. The Tryal to the coast, from whence she imported here the 3rd instant, having passed by the settlements of Vizagapatam, Ingeram and Gunjam, for which places she had some bales and treasure on board. On account of hard gales of wind, the Captain informed us, he met with off Deu Point, which set him so far to the eastward that he could not reach any of those ports, and for this purpose have directed the Master Attendant to be as expeditious as possible in caulking of her and getting her in readiness, when we shall send her to the coast with what Madeira wine she can take on board, and shall order the Master to call in at Vizagapatam with the money and bales designed thither.

75. As soon as the troubles are over, which we hope soon to accommodate we shall set about Your Honour's investments when the strictest regard shall be paid to Your Honours' orders thereon.

76. Omichund on the arrival of the treasure per *Walpole* informed us by letter he had entered on his own account into engagements for so considerable a part of your investment as seven lacks of rupees, and hearing the Frenc are supplied with money, should any part arrive at the Aurungs before he was able to supply his correspondents, he feared his contracts with them would be ill-complied with, therefore requested us to pay him two hundred thousand Arcot Rs. (2,00,000) on his last year's balance, whereby he hoped to obviate all difficulties, and to be able to deliver in to the amount he told us he contracted for; we then ordered him a lack of Arcot rupees, and since on the accounts being laid before us of what was due from Your Honours to the merchants, the 3rd of July, we ordered him six chests of bullion on the balance in his favour, and 15 per cent. to be paid the merchants account the balance due to them.

77. We shall pay due regard to Your Honours concerning the dispatching of your ships home this season, and in order to lighten your expenses for dead

freight, we have wrote to the gentlemen at the coast to lose no opportunity of supplying us at least four hundered (400) tons of redwood.

78. We request Your Honours' permission to defer replying particularly to the other parts of Your Honours' commands lately we received till our next address, and in the interim we assure Your Honours the utmost regard shall be paid thereto.

79. Our President, Adam Dawson, Esq., embraces this opportunity to return Your Honours his most humble thanks for the favour you have been pleased to confer on him, and begs leave to assure you that he will exert himself to the utmost of his power in the management of your affairs, hoping therein to give Your Honours satisfaction and thereby to merit your future regard.

80. The other gentlemen of Council whom Your Honours have thought proper to promote, desire leave to return you their most humble thanks.

81. We are now to advise Your Honours of our having granted the following bills of exchange at two shillings and four pence each rupee, payable at ninety days after sight as usual, and the gentlemen have been duly sworn that the money so paid in is on the accounts as follows, *viz.*—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
On 10th of August to Mr. John Zephaniah Holwell on his own account, one thousand current rupees (1,000), payable to Messrs. Gosling and Bennet, or order at 2*s.* 4*d.* each, is	116	13	4

82. We have likewise granted bills of exchange at two shillings and two pence each rupee to the following persons, *viz.*—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
On 10th of August, of the Hon'ble Adam Dawson, Esq., and Edward Holden Cruttenden, Esq., account Mrs. Martha Warren of London, twenty-three thousand eight hundred and fifty-two current rupees and eight annas (23,852-8), payable to Mrs. Martha Warren, or order at 2*s.* 2*d.* each, is	2,384	5	5
On the 10th August, of the Hon'ble Adam Dawson, Esq., and Edward Holden Cruttenden, Esq., account Miss Isabella Warren, seven thousand and sixty-three current rupees and six annas (7,063-6), payable to Mrs. Martha Warren, or order at 2*s.* 2*d.* each rupee, is .	765	3	11

83. The whole amount of sums paid in at two shillings and two pence each rupee is thirty thousand nine hundred and fifteen rupees fourteen annas (30,915-14) or £3,149-4-4.

We are, with the greatest respect,
MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,
Your most faithful and most obedient Humble servants,

A. DAWSON.
WILLIAM FFYTCHE.
HUM. BELLAMY.
ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
SAM. COOPER.
WILLIAM WATTS.
THOMAS BURROW.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 10th August 1749.

Transcribed,

P. W. JAMES HARROD.

Examined with

THOMAS HYNDMAN.

MEMORANDUM.

MADRAS RECORDS.

The muniments at the Madras Central Record Office are of unusual interest and importance. The most ancient Record relating to the British Empire in the East, is a letter dated 26th July 1630, preserved in the archives of the Bombay Record Office. The most ancient muniment in the Madras Record Office is a letter dated 1670. The first volume examined by me were letters received during the year 1678-79 at Fort St. George. The condition of the paper is so bad and the ink has so spread that I found it almost impossible to decipher it. There are some important letters from Bengal:

1682. An important Letter-book, paper decayed, ink has spread. No binding.
Letter from Dacca. Important. Letter from Surat. To Child, 25th April 1682.

As the primary object of my visit to Madras was to examine all the papers relating to Clive I first asked for all records relating to Fort St. David, as Clive's earliest service was in that Settlement. For many days it was impossible to get any trace of these documents, but, shortly before my departure, a few volumes were discovered in a corner of the office. They consist both of Letter-books and Consultation-books. The first Letter-book contains despatches to the Court from 17th October 1746 to 17th December 1748. In one of the letters we have an announcement of the arrival of Colonel Stringer Lawrence, one of the earliest and most illustrious of our Indian heroes.

"*Fort St. David, February 13th, 1747.* By the *Winchester* which arrived here the 13th ultimo, came Stringer Lawrence Esq., whom Your Honour appointed to be Major of the Forces on this Coast. On the 18th the Military Forces of the Garrison were drawn up, at the head of which, he was presented with a Commission.

"Your Honours direct that, in regard to Major Lawrence's allowances, they be on the same footing as Major Knipe enjoyed. We must take the liberty to acquaint you that that gentleman having borrowed money of the Company in England and dying soon after his arrival in Madras, he received no pay there, nor can we get certain information of what was to be allowed him. We have, therefore, settled his salary as Major at £300 per annum, and pagodas 50 per month for other allowances, besides £70 per annum as third in Council, which, we hope, Your Honours will approve of; and we must assure you he takes a great deal of pains in training up the Military and making the several dispositions necessary; already this Garrison is in better order than could well be expected, considering the short time that gentleman has been with us."

"As our enemies are furnished with a troop of horse, by which they have greatly the advantage of us in sending out parties thereof, that make frequent incursion s near our limits, and the adjacent villages, we have thought it absolutely necessary, with the opinion of Major Lawrence and several of the officers, to raise a troop also in your service, and have granted commissions to Lieutenant Gringins and Mr. Hallyburton to act as Lieutenants, and one to Ensign Cheesborough to be a Cornett, these being the properest persons. We have only been able to provide horses and accoutrements for 30 men, but we daily expect more horses from the country, and hope, in a short time, to make up this number, one hundred."

The following relates to Major Samuel, being taken prisoner at the attempt to capture Fort Areacopang (1748) :—

"As soon as our forces were landed from the fleet, they immediately encamped to the eastward of the garden-house, where they continued till all the baggage and the train was landed, when Your Honour's troops under the command of Major Lawrence joined them, and the 8th ultimo they set out for Pondicherry, but were obliged to make very short marches on account of their baggage, that it was the 12th before they got to a small fort of the enemy's, named Areacopang, about three miles to the southward of Pondicherry, which was so well fortified by fascine batteries and other works they had thrown up there, that it was the 19th before they got possession thereof. Whilst they were before this place, the enemy one morning attacked our trenches, upon which our people gave way, and very unfortunately our brave Major and one Captain Bruce of the Independent Companies, by their people leaving them, were made prisoners; and we should have suffered considerably had not Captain Holland (from whom we are afraid we shall have no more service this season as he has received a musket shot in his shoulder) with a great deal of briskness rallied our people, who, upon giving one smart fire drove the enemy quite away and took several prisoners. We have since received a letter from the Major who says he received no hurt in the action and that they met with extreme good treatment. We have also been so unfortunate as to lose Mr. John Hallyburton to whom, as we before acquainted Your Honours, we had given a Commission to be Lieutenant of the Troop of Horse and of which he was very deserving, for he took infinite trouble in disciplining the troop, and shewed himself very active in the field. It was by one of our sepoys that he had the misfortune to be killed, who shot him upon his reprimanding him for some offence, of which the poor gentleman died the next day, and the villain did not live so long for his comrades that stood by him cut him to pieces immediately. When we had got possession of Areacopang, after a stay there of a few days they marched round to the westward and are since gone to the northward, where they are landing their heavy Artillery and carrying on their approaches."

The Honourable Board give the following cogent reasons to their masters for not obeying their orders with regard to the prohibition of allowing any Roman Catholic Church on the Settlement.

"Your Honour's orders relating to our suffering a Romish Church or their priests within our bounds, should have been immediately put in execution, but after some consideration we found it would be attended with very ill consequences at this juncture having 529 Topasses in Garrison, and were we to turn the two priests out, not one would remain with us, and we beg leave to advise your Honours, the Officers assure us they behaved very well in all the actions against the enemy, particularly in the last at Cuddalore, of which Major Lawrence was an eye-witness, and it was his opinion (although he is not here to confirm it) that we ought not to run the risk of losing such a part of the Garrison, whom we think, must be attached to this place by living long in it and the greatest part of them having families here. We have not lost one by desertion, which could not have been prevented from some of the outposts had they been so inclined. The enemy at Pondicherry would have gladly received them, which would have distressed us very much; upon the whole, we hope we shall not be censured for not complying with this order, as we are of opinion it would have proved of the highest ill consequences to have put the same in execution at this juncture, when we are much in want of men. But as soon as we are furnished with a sufficient number of Europeans, we shall not then hesitate at putting your orders into immediate execution."

In the next letter mention is again made of Major Lawrence being made prisoner and the attempt made to exchange him.

"In our letter by the *Benjamin* of the 2nd September, a triplicate of which we now enclose, we acquainted Your Honours of the misfortune we had met with in losing our Major, who was taken prisoner by the enemy at Areacopang, as also of the fate poor Mr. Hallyburton met with. In the several skirmishes since with the enemy Lieutentant Browne of the Bengal detachment has been killed and Ensign Wright of the Bombay detachment, and by the enclosed return you will observe the number of men we have lost on this expedition. There is an exchange of prisoners on foot between the General and M. Dupleix who is very ready to exchange all but Major Lawrence, as he is justly well acquainted with the use that gentleman is of to us; but as the General has returned him for answer that, unless he is exchanged none of the rest shall, but be sent to Europe, we hope that may have an effect upon him and induce him to favour us with the Major again. Captain Morgan having laid down on account of his age and infirmities, Captain Holland acts at present as Commandant, being pretty well recovered of the wound he received at Areacopang."

The next series of letters examined by me were Public England, 16th January 1748 to 12th February 1749. The following extracts show that these letters throw light on the history and usages of the time.

In the first letter we are informed of the news of the cessation of arms and the restoration of the prisoners, including Major Lawrence.

"The day after the receipt of the news of the cessation of arms, &c., and His Majesty's Proclamation thereof, General Boscawen sent an answer of the same to M. Dupleix, whereupon Major Lawrence, and Captain Bruce that was taken prisoner with him, were permitted to give their Paroles and come hither, and upon the arrival of the *Favourite* with them, the 7th instant, who brought a comfirmation of the same, all the prisoners they had there belonging to us were sent hither, and the Major has again taken charge of the Garrison which we had delivered to Captain Holland as being the oldest officer (Captain Morgan having laid down the service on account of age and infirmities) and constituted him Commandant at the same allowances as were granted to Captain Gibson, but he, having now delivered up the same again and there being at present no prospect of any further action here, he purposes to proceed to Bengal by the first conveyance that offers, to take the command of the Company Your Honours have ordered him, there. The vacancy made by Captain Morgan we filled up with Mr. William Henry Southby, who was a Lieutenant of Marines in His Majesty's Service, upon the General's recommendation of him for the same, and that made by Captain Gringins being appointed of the Troop of Horse, as Mr. John Serimsam was the next Senior Officer, we gave him the Company, but with this proviso that, should Your Honours not think proper to continue the troop, that he should resign the same to Captain Gringins again, and in his room have appointed Mr. James Cope, a Lieutenant as well as Adjutant as an encouragement for the pains he takes in disciplining the Military, and we are informed that is the post he bore when in His Majesty's Service; being in need also of an officer that had some knowledge in the Train duty, we have given a Commission to one Peter Nost, who bore the station of a Bombardier in His Majesty's Train of Artillery, and has been bred up in that branch from his infancy, though at present he acts as an Ensign of the Military, but we purpose shortly to remove him to our Train of Artillery and make him a Lieutenant, which, we hope, will meet with Your Honour's approbation.

"As the private men that were in Cuddalore when it was attacked by the enemy all behaved very well, and it was probable we should soon after have an occasion to try them again, to encourage them to act in like manner we made them a present of a couple of sheets each; and no fault having been found with the sepoys that were there, and the heads of them we presented a few yards of broadcloth, and to their people to the value of a rupee each, and a turban or sash."

The following is a notice of the raising of the first troop of cavalry in the Madras Presidency.

"Of our having raised a Troop of Horse in Your Honour's service you have already been acquainted with, and we must now assure you that we find it of infinite service as it is to be relied on, which cannot be said of any peons that can be hired, and the number of them that we were obliged to keep before (the expenses of which will fully discharge that of the troop), we shall shortly dismiss, as we have found them of very little service on the late expedition, and had we been without the troop we should have laboured under great inconveniences, which will, in case of any stoppages of goods going or coming from the country, soon remove the cause and more expeditiously than any peons. Therefore we hope Your Honours will think proper to continue the same; General Boscawen is of opinion, also, that the continuing the same will be more for your interest than a number of peons (which must be done if the troop is abolished); having but a very mean opinion of those people from what he saw of them on the expedition. He has also been so kind as to give us his advice concerning the establishment thereof, which we have followed, as Your Honours will observe by our consultations. Cons. 24th October. The cost of the horses that have been bought for the same amounts to nineteen thousand four hundred and twelve pagodas, six fanams and fifty-five cash, 19,412-6-55."

The next passage refers to the capture of Madras by LaBourdonnai, and its restoration to us by the Peace of Aix-la Chapelle (1749).

"As we imagine an address by the way of *Bussorah* may possibly reach Your Honours before any of the shipping that will proceed for Europe next month, we therefore now despatch this to Bombay, to be forwarded from thence by the first opportunity, and have the great satisfaction to acquaint Your Honours that General Boscawen took possession of Fort St. George on the 21st instant, which occasions universal joy among the late inhabitants of that place who thronged there in great numbers immediately on hoisting the English Flag, though all the art the French made use of could not induce them to return while they were in possession, and the attachment they now shew to the English gives them no little mortification. The condition we have received it in, is indeed very indifferent, the French having undermined the fortifications and rifled it of all the useful and valuable stores, the particulars of which we shall transmit Your Honours with our next advices."

The Board proceed to mention that, owing to the ambition and intrigues of

Dupleix the Settlements of the Company derived "too little advantage from the Peace."

"By the Hon'ble Rear Admiral Boscawen, who purposes to leave us to-morrow, you will receive this address, and it gives us the greatest concern to think that we should have occasion to represent to you that, notwithstanding the Peace concluded between His Majesty and the King of France, your Settlements on this Coast are far from feeling its good effects; nay, on the contrary, are more embroiled than they were even during the War, all owing to the wiles and artifices of Monsieur Dupleix, the French Company's Governor of Pondicherry, who has so bitter an enmity to the English as not to be able to refrain from showing it by committing acts of hostility in an underhand manner, though he will not venture to declare openly against us, as Your Honours will see by the following sketch of his late proceedings.

"No sooner was M. Dupleix certain that the preliminary articles of the Peace were certified, and he freed from any apprehensions he might be under of an attack, but one Chunda Saib (formerly a Moors General who, upon the Nabob, his master, being defeated, had retired into the mountains and there lived in obscurity and whose family had taken refuge in Pondicherry and were in that place during the whole time of the seige), began raising men in the country to endeavour to dispossess Anaverdy Cawn, the then Nabob, and get the Government of the Province for himself; M. Dupleix pretended to have no concern in the matter, but sent out all the sepoys in the French pay to join Chunda Saib, under the colour of discharging them to lessen their expenses, and the men engaging them, to serve him. But when affairs were brought to a crisis the mask was thrown off, and he publicly avowed the cause of Chunda Saib, and sent out 900 of the best Europeans in the Garrison of Pondicherry, with a detachment of Artillery to join him as auxillaries.

"Soon after this junction Chunda Saib forced the Nabob to a battle, wherein by the assistance of the French who gave the turn of the scale, the Nabob himself was killed, and his whole army defeated, the consequence of which has been Chunda Saib taking upon him the Government of this Province as Nabob, by an illegal Firmaund procured from Mustapha Jung, without the knowledge or consent of Nazir Jung.

"The first act he did after arriving at this dignity was the recompensing his good allies by granting them 42 villages of the Villanour Country, which lay all round this Settlement, and, by way of reward to M. Dupleix in particular, the following towns and their revenues have been given to him and his relations, *viz.* :—

Corbelong to M. Dupleix.
Porto Novo to Madame Dupleix.
Atempara to Monsieur D'Antel, his brother-in-law.
St. Thome to Padrie D'la'Purification, a relation of Madame Dupleix.

"So that, we are surrounded in such a manner as for the French to have it entirely in their power to stop our trade or debar us from any supplies of provisions from the country, and we have great reason to believe, from what has already happened, they will not be wanting to make use of this advantage. For the Padrie's zeal being either warmer than the other, or his prudence less, could not help discovering himself by forbidding, on the severest penalties, any sort of refreshments going to Madras through or out of his dependencies, and by insulting us in other respects, insomuch that, at last, we were obliged to apply to General Boscawen for his assistance, who immediately sent and took the Padrie prisoner, and is bringing him to England to be disposed of as His Majesty shall think proper."

The following refers to the efforts made by the Board to fortify Fort St. George.

"We have completed the stone-work on the north side of the fort and about half finished the Lunette to the east and west, the latter of which is now proceeding on in a gradual manner, and we judge the completing of them and filling up the covered way will be sufficient to employ our workmen till we have the pleasure to receive your further commands on this head, and in the interim, have only to assure you that the constant and sincere regard we have always had for Your Honors' interest will oblige us still to continue our utmost care and industry, to prevent putting you to the least unnecessary expense in all the progress we may make herein."

The Board then proceed to shew the wretched condition in which Madras was restored to the English.

"Your Honours have been already informed in an address we made you overland, the 30th August, that your Settlement of Fort St. George was restored to us on the 21st of that month, we have, therefore, here only to acquaint you that the condition in which it was delivered was so extremely bad that we apprehend it will require to be entirely new fortified, all the walls and bastions being undermined in such a manner that they must, in all probability, fall down in the ensuing monsoon, and it is represented by His Majesty's Engineers and all the bricklayers that they are no ways to be repaired; neither are they in the least capable of bearing any cannon upon them, on which last circumstances we have been obliged, so far to deviate from your directions, as to permit a platform that was begun by the French to be finished, as we are informed it tends greatly to the present security of the place, and we hope Your Honours will not be displeased thereat, as we conceived it to be absolutely necessary. As our Engineer is gone, we cannot at this time send you a plan thereof, but will endeavour to get one prepared with an estimate of the expense in readiness to send by the January ship."

The following extract relates to a quarrel which took place between Clive and the Revd. Francis Fordyce. There is no mention of this quarrel in the biographies of Clive. It is possible that the account of a quarrel between Clive and an officer is a distorted version of this affair. Mill states that at Madras: "His turbulence, though he was not ill natured, engaged him in quarrels with his equals" The Board at St. David states: "Lest the same should be to Mr. Clive's prejudice, we think it not improper to assure you that he is generally esteemed a very quiet person and no ways guilty of disturbances."

"A complaint having been brought before us by Mr. Francis Fordyce for an assault that was made on him by Mr. Robert Clive, a due enquiry was made by us into the same, in the course of which, it appearing that Mr. Fordyce had given great provocation for such proceeding, by having frequently scandalized his character in a most insufferable manner; and being further acquainted that he had, at several times, taken great liberties in his conversation in making use of many unbecoming reflections on the President and all the Members of the Board. In consequence of this his aggression and disrespect, together with the many instances we have had of his insolent and meddling disposition, we came to a resolution of suspending him Your Honour's Service; and besides the reasons already given for our so doing we might still add that he was in general remarked to be extremely negligent, remiss in the several duties of his functions, particularly in the burial of the soldiers and seamen, which part of his office, he scarce ever attended, notwithstanding he had been twice or thrice rebuked by the President for not doing, and which neglect had, at length, begun to create great discontent in our Military. We therefore presume that, upon a due consideration of all these circumstances, Your Honours will concur with us in the measures we have taken herein, in which dependance we shall only add, as it is not to be doubted that Mr. Fordyce will set forth his own story to Your Honours, and lest the same should be to Mr. Clive's prejudice, we think it not improper to assure you that he is generally esteemed a very quiet person and no ways guilty of disturbances."

The following extract relates to the attempts made to form an effective Company of Artillery.

"The Company of Artilery remains as yet very incomplete; having found it very difficult to procure persons qualified for that service, we endeavoured all we could to prevail on those in His Majesty's Train to enter with us, and as a great encouragement to induce them thereto, we agreed, as the pay directed in your new Regulations was somewhat less than is allowed in His Majesty's service, to allow 4 per diem more to each gunner and to give one shilling per diem to all Matrosses, but all would not tempt them and not above twenty-six came over to us.

"Upon the strenuous advice and recommendation of Major Lawrence for the still continuing some of our Topasses in the service, in order to relieve the Europeans from duty in the violent heat of the day, we have therefore for that reason, as likewise upon consideration of the small strength of our Garrison, been constrained for the present to deviate from Your Honour's directions therein, and have accordingly entertained them at 10 per diem, which the Major judges to be a proportionable pay to the Europeans till you are pleased to direct the contrary."

The Government of Fort St. David express an opinion that instead of Madras remaining a Subordinate Settlement it should be made again "the Presidency."

" Since our last address to Your Honours, under the 18th ultimo, by Admiral Boscawen, finding ourselves in a quiet and undisturbed possession of Fort St. George, and judging that it will be again a place of great trade and business, and that an investment may be shortly commenced, provided proper encouragement is given to the merchants and inhabitants of that place, we have taken into consideration the directions Your Honours were pleased to give us thereon in looking upon that place as a Subordinate Settlement till further orders, and to send such persons there as are necessary to invite and encourage trade, and accordingly, in Consultation, we appointed Mr. Richard Prince, Deputy Governor, Mr. Richard Starkie, second, Mr. John Smith, third, Mr. William Smith King, fourth, and Mr. John Walsh, fifth of Council, who will proceed for Madras soon after this ship's despatch.

" As Fort St. George is much better situated for despatch of business of all kinds than this place, we take the liberty of recommending it to Your Honours to make that place again the Presidency."

The next volumes I examined were those containing the Consultations held at Fort St. David.

Fort St. David, February 1748-1749.—"A letter from Mr. Robert Clive read, as entered hereafter, setting forth that, as he is informed, the Revd, Mr. Fordyce, some days since, preferred a complaint to the Board against him, he therefore requests they will examine into the cause of the said complaint for his justification, whereupon the Secretary is ordered to summon the Revd. Mr. Fordyce to attend on Friday next at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, when it is agreed to hold a Consultation to examine into this affair, and that he bring with him such persons as he thinks necessary to prove what he has to allege against Mr. Clive, who is also ordered to give his attendance at that time.

"I have been informed that the Revd. Mr, Fordyce, some days ago, preferred a complaint against me to Your Honour, &c., this therefore is to request that Your Honour, &c., will be pleased to examine into the cause of the said complaint for the justification of

FORT: Your most obedient humble servant,
28th February 1748-9. ROBERT CLIVE.

"*To the* HON'BLE CHARLES FLAYER, ESQ.,
President and Governor, &c., Council, Fort St. David.

Mr. Clive's deposition.

That, being at dinner with Messrs. Dalton and Worth on or about the 16th day of February at Bandipollam, they told him Mr. Fordyce had said to a gentleman in public company that he was a scoundrel and a coward, and that he had shook his cane over him in the presence of Mr. Levy Moses. Mr. Clive further says that, some time before this, he had been informed by Captain Cape that Mr. Fordyce did in conversation with him threaten to break every bone in his skin, and he says that these repeated abuses so irritated him that he could not forbear, on meeting Mr. Fordyce in Cuddalore, to reproach him with his behaviour, which, he told him, was so injurious he could bear it no longer, and thereupon struck him two or three times with his cane, which, at last, Mr. Fordyce returned and then closed in with him, but that they were presently parted by Captain Lucas, who happened to be by. Mr. Clive further observes, that he is not the only person who has been abused and calumniated by Mr. Fordyce, who had also aspersed the character of Mr. Joseph Fowke, by saying he was a dark designing villain, that he would slit his nose the first time he met him, and that he had knocked him under the table at the Governor's. He further says, Mr. Fordyce had told Captain Dalton at Mr. Beloches's that if everybody would discourse the Governor in the manner he had done, it would alter affairs greatly, and that he had talked to him till he made him quake or shake in his shoes, or words to that effect. Mr. Clive also says, Mr. Lindsay told him he had heard Mr. Fordyce say that Mr. Bulkley was a scoundrel and a coward, and that he had shook his cane at him as he had done at Mr. Clive. Mr. Clive further says, he threatened to thrash Mr. Bourchier, and that he had declared to several people he had taken away gentlemen's swords before now, and would pull off his canonicals at any time to do himself justice, and lastly, Mr. Clive says, Mr. Lennox told him that Mr. Fordyce was generally shunned and detested, both at St. Helena and the West Coast, on account of his meddling disposition which rendered him disagreeable and obnoxious to every one.

ROBERT CLIVE."

"A letter from Mr. Robert Clive read setting forth that, as the Revd. Mr. Fordyce, whose malicious deposition (*sic*) is well known, may endeavour all in his power to misrepresent him to his Hon'ble Masters at home, he therefore desires that we (who are the best judges of his behaviour) will represent him in such light that he may not suffer in their good opinion which, it's agreed to comply with, being well convinced that Mr. Clive is not at all addicted to creating disputes, but of a quiet disposition."

The following extract notes the resignation of his commission by Clive.

Mr. Clive appointed Steward.

"Mr. Robert Clive having returned a few days past from Fort St. George, whither his Quarter Master's employ obliged him to proceed with the Commissary's, his travelling charges are therefore ordered to be paid, and as he is desirous of resigning his Commission, and being entertained in some Civil employ, it's agreed that he be appointed Steward, and to take charge of that post the 1st of next month, and that Messrs. Westcott and Wynch, accompanied by Messrs. Smith and Clive, examine the account, remains of provisions, and garrison stores, and report to us the condition they may find them in."

Minutes of Consultation at Fort St. David, 16th March 1746-47.

"Mr. Robert Clive having behaved as a volunteer in the late engagement and requesting to be entertained an Ensign, the same is granted him, and a Commission ordered to be drawn out accordingly."

Extract of letter from the Council at Fort St. George to the Council at Fort St. David, dated 31st January 1751-52.

"In our letter of the 21st instant we informed Your Honour, &c., of the Deputy Governors having wrote to Captain Kilpatrick for a particular account of the disbursements for all the money he has drawn on us; in answer to which he informs the Deputy Governor that he has passed his accounts with Captain Clive to the time that he marched for Conjiveram; and that, as his accounts since are not properly stated, and he is now moving to Wandawash, he hopes you will please to excuse his not sending them until his return to Arcot."

Extract of letter from the Council at Fort St. George to the Council at Fort St. David, dated 24th February 1751-52.

"Yesterday morning we received your favour of the 19th instant by the Sloop *Fortune*, on which came Captain Chase, who landed soon after with the party of men under his command, and in the evening marched out in order to join Captain Clive, who was at Warrapancam. By a letter the Deputy Governor received yesterday from him, and he writes, further, that the enemy upon his approach retired with great precipitation to Chingleput. We have sent out Mr. Hinchley to join Captain Clive in order to his proceeding to Arcot to supply the place of Mr. Wilson."

MONDAY, 22nd JULY 1751.

At a Consultation.

PRESENT:

THOMAS SAUNDERS, ESQ., *Governor and President.*

RICHARD STARKIE.	GEORGE PIGOT.
CHARLES BODDAM.	ALEXANDER WYNCH.
HENRY POWNEY.	MR. ROBINS (SICK).

The following extract from a Consultation, dated 22nd July 1751, notes the restoration of Clive to the army.

"Mr. Robert Clive who has lately been very serviceable in conducting several parties to camp, offering to go without any consideration of pay, provided we will give him a Brevet to entitle him to the rank of a Captain, as he was an Officer at the seige of Pondicherry and almost the whole time of the War, and distinguished himself on many occasions, it is conceived that this Officer may be of some service and, therefore, now ordered that a Brevet be drawn out and given him."

The following extracts deal with the services of Clive during the famous relief of Arcot.

Monday, the 19th August.—"The Board being of opinion that a diversion in the Arcot country will oblige the enemy to withdraw part of their forces from Trichinopoly and put it in our power to attempt something that way, now agree that Captain Clive be sent with a party of all the Europeans we can possibly spare and some sepoys for this purpose, and that he proceed on the *Wager* to Fort St. George, where he is to be reinforced by all the men they can any ways furnish, and march immediately towards Arcot, and the President is now desired to write to the Deputy Governor to acquaint him with the intent of their coming, and to recommend it to him to despatch letters to the several Killadars, &c., to engage them to bring in their troops to his assistance, and to forward the design all in their power.

29th August 1751.—"The President acquaints the Board that a consideration that many accidents with regard to the party gone out with Captain Clive might require immediate orders, he has desired Mr. Prince to give them on any such occasion, without waiting for directions from hence, as a delay of that sort might be of the worst consequence. The Board concurring in this opinion cannot but approve the step he has taken.

4th September 1751.—"The President lays before the Board the letters from Captain Clive, the first of which advises that he entered the Fort of Arcot, and hoisted the Nabob's colours there the 1st instant without any opposition. That the merchants and inhabitants expressed a great deal of satisfaction on his arrival. That he has a prospect of succeeding in our design and bringing the greatest part of the country to Mahomed Ally, that he shall lay in as large a stock of provisions as he can procure in the Fort, which he shall then be able to defend against a considerable force. The second advises that many of the Killadars have offered to admit him into their forts, and the country in general has declared for Mahomed Ally, that he hears a few horse and foot are getting together near him and intends to march out and disperse them. That he shall proceed to Vellore to sound the inclinations of the Killadar there, and if he finds him in the enemy's interest use his utmost endeavours by promises and menaces to bring him over to ours, as he has a large body of troops in his service, and will therefore be a vast support to whichever side he takes.

Thursday, 12th September.—" The President lays before the Board a letter from Captain Clive, dated 7th instant, advising that, finding the Killadar of Timmerie was in the enemy's interest he marched out the 3rd instant with a part of his forces to frighten him into terms. That on the road a body of Horse and Foot with a few French Coffrees and two pieces of cannon met him. But he soon obliged them to give way; that the Foot retreated to the Fort and the Horse got into topes about it; that thinking it imprudent with his small party to attempt anything against the Fort with so considerable a body of the enemy about it, he returned to Arcot, and on the 5th marched out again with a larger force; that he then found the Horse and Foot drawn up in a tope with a piece of cannon to oppose him, but he soon drove them from that post and from a steep bank to which they retreated; in doing this he had 3 Europeans killed and 2 wounded. The enemy hereupon got into the fort, and he went close to the walls, and sent a threatening message to the Killadar, which was not regarded; he then threw several shells into it, but this, also, had no effect, as Chunda Saib's son-in-law was come to his assistance with a 1,000 foot, upon which finding it impossible to compass his ends he returned to Arcot. That the Killadars are most of them gone over to the enemy's side, perceiving that our force is not so formidable as they at first apprehended. That flying parties of horse are continually scouring all round him which prevents his getting in provisions so fast as he could wish, and that he has not been able to collect a Fanam of contributions owing to the disaffection of the people and the want of a capable Black fellow to manage them.

30th September 1751.—" The President acquaints the Board that Captains Richards and Kilpatrick and Captain Lieutenant Murray arriving from Camp some days ago were immediately put under arrest to be sent to Europe, agreeably to our Resolution; but Captain Richards is since dead, and Captain Lieutenant Murray found means, the 24th instant, to make his escape to Pondicherry, where it is said he has got a commission.

" He also informs them that, agreeable to his orders mentioned in last Consultation, Lieutenant Innis arrived from Camp yesterday with a party of one hundred and thirty men. As the *Lancaster* is going to Madras in a day or two, agreed that they be sent on her and the President is desired to write to the Deputy Governor to acquaint him of it and to direct him in case Captain Clive should be in want of a reinforcement to send him the necessary assistance.

7th October.—" A petition from Captain James Kilpatrick read as entered hereafter, setting forth the deep concern he is under from the imprudent step he has taken and promising, if we will grant him pardon, to behave in future to our satisfaction, Mr. Eyles at the same time soliciting in his behalf and acquainting the Board that he has talked with him on the subject, and finds him so thoroughly convinced of his error that he could venture to answer for his future behaviour. Thereupon the Members of the Board, except Mr. Pigot, were of opinion that the rigorous measures we have taken on this occasion and the arrest Captain Kilpatrick has been under for some time, will be a means to discourage anything of the like nature hereafter, it is therefore agreed that Mr. Eyles' request be complied with and pardon granted Captain Kilpatrick, but that he be called before us and severely reprimanded for his offence, and told that we expect the favour we have shewn him will engage him to avoid an error of the like nature hereafter, and to behave in a manner suitable to the station he bears.

" The President acquaints the Board that Captain Clive writes him he has had several skirmishes with the enemy, killed a great many of them and spiked up some of their cannon, but that they have now gathered about him in such numbers that he has no hopes with his small force of effecting anything more than keeping the Fort of Arcot, which he is in no doubt about as he has got three months' provisions in it. Agreed, therefore, that the party we sent to Madras on the *Lancaster* be ordered to join him with as many sepoys as can be got together there, and if after this he finds the enemy superior we think it most prudent for him to return, as it will be only an unnecessary expense to maintain the Fort of Arcot, if the whole country is in obedience to Chunda Saib, and pays him the revenues, and the President is desired to give him orders to that effect.

21st October 1751.—"The President lays before the Board a letter from Captain Clive advising that he is invested in the Fort at Arcot, where the enemy are cannonading him. That unfortunately two of his 18-pounders are disabled by the shot from their battery; he was going to mount the last he has. That he has three months' provisions and thinks himself able to defend a breach should the enemy make one. His only apprehensions, therefore, are his peoples falling down through fatigue; that he thinks no less force than 1,000 Blacks and 200 Europeans can attempt to relieve him, as the enemy's situation is strong and their numbers increase daily; if therefore we cannot furnish such a body he give it as his opinion the place should be evacuated as soon as possible, as it must fall when his provisions are expended. Mr. Prince writing that if he can have fifty men more from hence he shall be able to send out the party Captain Clive thinks necessary. Ordered that number be immediately detached to Madras with some sepoys, and the President is desired to direct the Deputy Governor to despatch the reinforcement to Arcot as expeditiously as possible.

18th November 1751.—"Sundry letters received by the President from the Deputy Governor of the 13th enclosing one from Captain Clive to himself of the 9th, and copy of one to the Deputy Governor of the 6th instant, giving a description of his situation, and that the enemy had made two large breaches in the walls which he was fortifying in the best manner he could and was not under the least apprehension from them unless they should make a breach of one-half the Fort. That he had received a summons from young Chunda to whom he returned an answer and let him know that neither threats nor bribery should hinder him from doing his duty.

22nd November 1751.—"A letter received by the President from Captain Clive of the 13th advises the enemy's having early that morning attacked the breaches they had made and behaved with the greatest resolution, but as he had intelligence of their design and was prepared for them, after an action which lasted a full hour they retreated with the loss of at least a hundred and fifty men and two Jemaidars of note. That the attack was made by the Coffrees and Blacks in general who were intoxicated with arrack and opium. But he is of opinion the reception they met with will deter them from such attempts again, and they had left their camp and cannon with some baggage and a great quantity of grain. A letter of the 18th mentions his being in possession of the Forts of Timmerie, Colloway, and Coveree-Pauk, the Killadars of which were so intimidated at the repulse that had been given to young Chunda that they readily admitted our people within their gates, and at the former, where young Chunda had retired after his being defeated, but retreated from very precipitately on Captain Clive's approach, he found a considerable body; that he intended proceeding in conjunction with the Morattas towards Velloore to endeavour to get some money of Moortas Ally. But does not design coming to any rupture with him and only to prevail on him to espouse our cause.

25th November 1751.—"The President lays before the Board some letters received from Mr. Prince and Captain Clive of the 20th and 23rd giving an account that the Morattas had left us and were plundering the whole country, and it was reported that the French and Chunda's Agents were tampering with them about deserting our interest; that if it should prove so Captain Clive was of opinion he should be a match for them in the Field with Captain Kilpatrick's detachment, and in four days after had hopes of leaving Arcot Fort repaired and provisioned, when he intended to put also some Military and Sepoys into Timmerie, which is extremely strong, and that Mr. Prince judged a present to the Morattas at this juncture might be the means of securing them to us. But the Board being of a contrary opinion as it would have too great an appearance of our being principals in the matter, and will be leading our Hon'ble Masters into an expense, with but little hopes of gaining anything by it. It's therefore judged necessary for the present only to be upon our guard, and not put too much confidence in them, but that they may not think we treat them slightingly; that a watch, a pair of *pistolls*, and a few such articles be sent the General with a letter of compliment.

2nd December 1751.—"Several letters received from Captains Clive and Kilpatrick. One of the 24th ultimo from the former advises that a party of Chunda's had surprized the Morattas in the night as they were returning to join him, and killed some of them, which he could not but look upon as a fortunate circumstance for us, as they are without doubt greatly exasperated at it, and all apprehensions are removed of their design to leave us; that he was in expectation of Boojangrow, the Moratta General, joining him that day, when he should set out for Velloore; and had information Morarey and the Mysore King's brother were on their march to Arcot with a large army. One from Captain Kilpatrick's of the 25th ultimo advises the receipt of Mr. Prince's letter mentioning the importance of Conjeeveram to us which both Captain Clive and himself who had consulted about it were well convinced of, but judged it an imprudent undertaking at this juncture, as the enemy were near and superior to them, and would have it in their power to raise the siege, which they must be obliged to carry on if they had any design to take the Pagoda, as the walls were very high and faced with stone, or else block up Arcot again. However, he only offers such as his sentiments on the occasion and will follow any orders he may receive on that head. He also gives information of the Morattas being returned, and that Captain Clive had marched with them that morning towards Velloore in hopes of meeting the enemy and bringing them to an action, in which should we meet with success he is of opinion they would abandon Conjeeveram.

9th December.—"Several letters received from Captain Clive read giving an account of his having made sundry efforts to meet the enemy and bring them to an action, and on the 2nd instant receiving advice that they had decamped and were proceeding to Aranie and had been joined near that place by 50 French, 200 Sepoys, and 300 Horse, he marched that evening and came up with them the next morning about 11 o'clock, and at 12 came to an engagement with them which lasted till 5 in the afternoon, when they were totally defeated; that they kept viewing our people at a distance till dark when they disbanded and young Chunda rode off with only 500 horse; that several others and sepoys had taken shelter that night in Aranie Fort, and that on threatening the Killadar he had promised to deliver up all Chunda's effects; that the Morattas have taken a great many horses, bullocks, &c., and he is well assured the enemy lost full a hundred men, and that our killed and wounded, Military and Sepoys, amount to only 22. That he is now in hopes of making further discoveries, and after he has settled matters there designs proceeding to Conjeeveram, and can now retire with pleasure, having left Captain Kilpatrick the open country and no one to oppose him. From whence as it may be concluded that Captain Clive intended returning soon, it's thought proper to recommend to him not to be too hasty in that resolution, for though the enemy are now dispersed, as there are many Forts in the country they can take refuge in, they will in all likelihood soon gather together again and annoy us especially if we should retire immediately, and the President is desired to write to Captain Clive on that subject.

23rd December 1751.—" Several letters received from Captain Clive of the 18th which give an account of his being in possession of Conjeeveram Pagoda, the enemy having abandoned it in the night, and though he had a strong party within sixty yards of the gate where they escaped, he knew nothing of it till above half an hour after they were gone, by reason of a high wall built before it for its defence and mud bank behind which they made off; and received the first information from Messrs. Rewell and Glass, who had been most ignominously treated by the Commanding Officer. That was a *Portugese* and had once ordered Mr. Rewell to mount the breach to see if his presence would stop our fire, but he thought better of it.

" Further advising that the Morattas were gone quite off, and every one walked on foot for the convenience of loading his horse with plunder, as soon as which is secured he understands they have orders from Morarey to proceed to Trichinopoly. Wherefore he has only to send a strong detachment to Arcot and Timmerie and after demolishing the fortifications at Conjeeveram to march with the rest for Trivelore and Poonamallee."

The next volume examined by me was—

"THE CONSULTATION AND DIARY BOOK
OF
RICHARD PRINCE,
Deputy Governor and Council of Fort. St George,
CONTAINING
THEIR TRANSACTIONS IN THE AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED COMPANY OF MERCHANTS OF ENGLAND TRADING IN THE EAST INDIES—BEGAN JANUARY 1750-51.

Thursday, the 15th August.

At a Consultation present—

RICHARD PRICE, *Deputy.*
THOMAS COOKE.
JOHN SMITH.
WILLIAM SMYTH KING.
JOHN WALSH.

" Arrived nine Mussoolahs from Fort St. David with Military Lascars, &c. The Hon'ble Company's ships *Wager*, *Josiah Hindman* from Fort St. David with a party under the command of Captain Clive and General letter of the 22nd instant.

26th August.—" Marched out a detachment under the command of Captain Clive.

9th September.—" Advanced Robert Orme, Attoreney for Captain Robert

Clive, three hundred (300) Pagodas being on account of the expedition to Arcot, and Nabob Mahomed Ally Cawn is ordered to be debited for the same.

13th September 1751.—"Nulla Cuntauk presenting a bill for two thousand (2,000) Arcot Rupees and three hundred Pagodas drawn by Captain Robert Clive at Arcot in the Deputy Governor and Council, the same is now discharged, *viz.*—

Arcot Rupees amount to Pagodas	515 17 0
Current Pagodas	300 0 0
Pagodas .	815 17 0

for which Nabob Mahomed Ally Cawn is to be debited also for four hundred (400) Pagodas now advanced, Captain Clive's allowances being likewise on account of the expedition to Arcot.

12th November 1751.—"General Letter from the Presidency of the 4th instant informs us likewise of the President's having advised the Deputy Governor by letter of having sent us a reinforcement of 350 Sepoys and 50 Europeans under the command of Captain Kilpatrick, and that one of the boats on which the sepoys came stopping at Allampanne the French made them prisoners; this supply of men with what came under command of Lieutenant Innis is the utmost the President says they can assist us with, and which they imagine will be sufficient for the purpose in hand. That they have been informed that upwards of two lacks of Rupees being collected by Mahomed Ally's Agents at Tripoly which they order us to endeavour all we can to secure. Captain Clive writes from Arcot that he is blockaded and unable to act, and therefore we are to be as expeditious as possible in relieving him, as by delaying we shall give time to the enemy to gather strength. The President, &c., also orders us to credit Mahomed Ally's account for all the money which we receive from Tripoly, and to debit him for the disbursements. Also to enlist 300 sepoys for the security of Poonamallee and St. Thomè during these troubles.

"General Letter to the Hon'ble President, &c., Council drawn up and signed in answer to their of the 4th instant acquainting them of Captain Kilpatrick's arrival here the 30th ultimo with a party under his command except those made prisoners at Allampanne; also that 5 chelingas with Field carriages and Military stores were got on this side of Sadrass, and that we have sent mussoolahs to tow them hither. That with regard to the Tripoly money the Deputy Governor acquaints us that as soon as Captain Clive has marched with his detachment to Arcot, Sampatraw, the late Nabob's Dûan, appointed a person to act for Mahomed Ally at that place in order to secure the money collected at the Pagoda, at the same time Bommeraw, one of the considerable Polygars there, sent (1,000) one thousand peons under pretence of assisting him, but no sooner was he advised of Captain Clive's being blockaded than he wrote a letter to the Deputy Governor and another to Sampatraw acquainting them that he had received a menacing letter from Chunda Saib about his assisting Mahomed Ally, and by several expressions he plainly discovered that he determined to side with the party that was most likely to be uppermost; upon which the Deputy Governor thought proper to send the Bombay Jemmindar with 60 of his best sepoys and two hundred peons (200) to try if they could bring the money away, and finding that Bommerauze was not to be relyed upon, they thought it would be running too great a risque to attempt it; however, Mahomed Ally's Agent has found means to remit to Sampatraw to the amount of thirty-two thousand five hundred (32,500) Rupees and five thousand (5,000) Pagodas, which shall be brought to account of Mahomed Ally as the Hon'ble President, &c., are pleased to direct, and if Mahomed Ally's affairs take the least favourable turn, we flatter ourselves we shall be able to get the remainder of that. Yesterday the Deputy Governor received a letter from Bojangauz, brother to Morarey, the Moratta General, advising that he was arrived at Arcot and had surrounded the Camp with his Army and stopped provisions of all kinds from getting to Chunda Saib. That he had taken forty oxen (40) and two camels (2) load of ammunition going to the camp. He desired the party we intended to send to the relief of Captain Clive might join him as soon as possible, when he makes no doubt of being able to destroy their whole force, upon which Captain Kilpatrick has been ordered to march with the detachment under his command and to proceed directly to Arcot.

26th November 1751.—"General Letter from the President, &c., Council (Fort St. David's) of the 10th instant, stating that they are glad the Morattas are arrived at Arcot, and that we have dispatched a party of men under command of Captain Kilpatrick to the relief of Captain Clive. That they are advised that Chunda's friends are endeavouring to alienate them from Mahomed Ally's interest, therefore they order us to act with the greatest caution, and to recommend the same to the Officer abroad.

"General Letter to the Hon'ble the President, &c., Council in answer to the above drawn up and signed acquainting them of our having received their favour of the 18th instant which we acknowledged by letter of the 22nd. That Captain Kilpatrick arrived at Arcot the 15th instant. But the day before he got there Chunda Saib's people attempted to storm the Fort, but were repulsed with great loss by Captain Clive, leaving all their Artillery behind them, upon which Captain Clive sent out a party under command of Lieutenant Bulkley, who took Tinnevery Fort; that Chunda Saib's son is encamped near Vellore, and that Captain Clive by a letter to the Deputy Governor of the 20th is marched out and has encamped himself between him and Arcot, and that we expect to hear of an action every hour: that the Deputy Governor has also received a letter from Bojangraw, brother to Morarey, General of the Morattas, wherein he confirms all that Captain Clive mentions as to the situation of the camps and of our post. We assure their Honour, &c., who shall use all the endeavours we can possibly to engage the Morattas to Mahomed Ally's interest."

Desirous of getting as much information as possible regarding Clive's expedition to Bengal, the next volume examined by me was one containing the Consultations for 1756.

"*21st August 1756.*

At a Consultation present—

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., Governor, *President.*
STRENGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLIAM PERCIVAL.
ROBERT PALK.

"The President acquaints the Committee that intelligence was received on the 16th instant of the taking of Calcutta by the Moores on the 20th June, in consequence of which it having been resolved in Council to send as large a force as can possibly be spared from hence to make an effort for the re-establishment, he despatched orders the 17th instant to Captain Pye to march higher with the

Letter from Mr. Charles Frederick Noble Read.—I look on old Omy Chand as the man in Bengal the most capable of serving as if he has a mind to it, though considering the ill usage he has often received from the gentlemen of our nation there (who have generally sacrificed the Company's welfare and nation's honour and glory to their private progress and interest) we can scarce hope for his favour without the hopes of retrieving what he may have lost by this unhappy event, and being better treated in future, may prevail with him. Whether he had any hand in the present affairs or not I cannot say: he was intimate with the Nabob and all the Court.

16th October.—"This morning Vice-Admiral Watson sailed from this road for Bengal with the following ships under his command, *viz.*, His Majesty's ships *Kent*, *Cumberland*, *Tiger*, *Salisbury*, *Bridgwater*, and *Blaze* (Fireship) and the Hon'ble Company's ships *Walpole* and *Malboro* having on board Lieutenant-Colonel Clive with a detachment of land forces.

Shortly after the fleet had sailed for Madras, intelligence of a French war reached the Madras Government, and it was discussed in Council whether, according to the Provisional treaty, the news should not be communicated to Pondicherry.

"*22nd November 1756.*

At a Committee present:—

George Pigot, Esq., Governor, *President.*
Henry Powney.
Robert Palk.

"It being stipulated by the 8th Aricle of the Provisional Treaty that whichever of the two nations shall receive first answers from Europe concerning the Truce shall communicate *bonâ fide* the said answers to the other nation, a debate arose whether the advice of the war ought or ought not to be transmitted to Mr. DeLeyrit.

"As the declaration of War is doubtless to be esteemed a definitive answer to the Truce, in strict conformity to the beforementioned article, notice of it should be sent to Pondicherry, but it is necessary first to weigh the conveniences and inconveniences of such a step. We are yet uncertain whether Mr. Leyrit has received the news or not. If he has, he thinks it unnecessary to communicate it to us. If he has not, our giving him public notice without being in a capacity and in readiness to enter upon some action will expose our weakness, and can only serve to make the enemy more allert in attacking such places as lie most open to their insults, particularly the Company's Northern Settlement. It is agreed therefore not to advise Mr. Leyrit of the war, and further if Colonel Aldercron should again mention the necessity of reading the Declaration at the Head of the Troops, the President is desired to represent to him that it may be of bad consequence to do it until we know that the news has reached our Northern Factories, which being in a very weak state will require time to provide for the security of the Company's effects in readiness against any emergency.

"*12th December 1758.*

At a Consultation present—

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., Governor, *President.*
HENRY POWNEY.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
WILLIAM PERCIVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BROUCHIER.
JOHN PYLVES.
HENRY VANSITTART.
MR. NORRIS, indisposed.

"The enemy having marched this morning from the Mount, and appeared about day-break upon Choultry Plain, our army, after about two hours' cannonading, returned into garrison, and the enemy encamped upon the spot where our troops were last night about a mile and half to the southward of the Fort. At the same time their advanced guards were seen at the Garden House and Chebauk, the village just on the other side of the Bar. From these motions it appearing to be the enemy's design to form immediately the siege of Madras, and the Board being of opinion that the necessary orders for conducting the defence cannot, without great inconvenience and delay, be debated on and issued by the whole Council—it is therefore unanimously *agreed* to leave the conduct of the defence to the Governor, who with Colonel Laurence is desired to take the assistance of the other Field Officers and the Engineer as often as may be requisite, and immediately to issue the necessary orders."

"*Consultation, 18th February 1759.*

"The Council having at the commencement of the siege delegated all their authority to the Governor that so the Publick Service might not receive any prejudice by the delay which must have necessarily attended the assembling the Council upon every emergency, that danger being happily passed by the Retreat of the enemy the 17th instant, the Council again resume their proper functions, the President assuring them of his greateful sence of the confidence they were pleased to repose on him, and the whole Council at the same time acknowledging with thankfulness the good effects of his activity during the siege."

I next examined a most interesting Volume containing a—

"Journal of transactions during the siege of Fort St. George, began the 12th December 1758.

"In order to dispose the garrison with spirits and as a Reward for the Bravery, it is resolved to publish to them in case the enemy shall be either defeated or compelled to raise the siege, the sum of fifty thousand rupees shall be divided amongst them five days after their defeat or retreat, following in this promise of reward the example of the Hon'ble Company, who have thought two thousand pounds not too large a recompence to the seamen of any of their ships who shall make a good defence when attacked and repel the enemy.

Wednesday, the 20th.—"This being the day appointed by the Charter for Mayor and Sheriff annually elected to enter on their respective offices, the Council assembled as usual, and a message being brought that the Mayor elect and Sheriff are ready to take the oath, they are introduced with the other members and officers of the Mayor's Court, and the oaths of allegiance and office are first administered by the President to Charles Turner, Esq., who was chosen the 5th instant and then to Mr. Henry Eustace Johnstone, who was the same day elected Sheriff both for the year ensuing.

" It having been always usual upon this occasion to salute the new Mayor with nine guns, nine guns were shotted upon the Royal Bastion and pointed at the enemy's quarters and works and discharged in honour of the new Mayor, and it is hoped with good effect on the enemy.

Thursday, 21st. Important Sortie.—" By this sortie the enemy has been thrown into a general commotion, besides the good effects such sallys may have on our sepoys by enduring them to danger, the enemy's people are harassed and fatigued and their works retarded."

(This page is loose. It should at once be repaired.)

Friday, the 22nd.—The intelligence received this day is as follows:—

" A Company's peon who was of those placed as Tappies on the Pulicat road, was seized by the French the day they invested Madras and has worked for them as a cooly ever since, this morning found means to escape and gave the following account. That the enemy have a Battery of four guns by the seaside completed and the guns mounted; the face of the Battery is in a circular form, so that he judges some of the guns will bear upon the road and some enfilade the east front of the town. From that Battery a Breastwork is thrown up to Tombey Chetty's house, behind which, on this side the old ditch, another Battery for six guns is almost completed, and three guns are brought up and placed in the ditch in readiness. The Breastwork is continued from this Battery to Peddanigne's house, close to the burying ground, where another Battery is begun intended also for six guns as he judges. From thence the Breastwork is continued to the canal lately made by our taking out clay for the works, and near that they have cleared out a space where they keep their magazines of stores and baggage, &c. That they began to work three days ago behind the old Hospital near the back of Sumpatrow's house in Peddanigne's pettah, but having had five or six men killed there by the cannon from the Fort they have not continued that work, but in the other street at the back of the old Hospital fronting the north side of the new Hospital they have begun and are now busily employed upon a Circular Battery of six guns. This peon further reports that the regiment of Lorrain lay by their arms last night in the great Bazar Street of Peddanigne's pettah, and that Fisher's Hussars and the rest of their horse were in the street adjoining. That the Battalion of India are quartered near the Portuguese Church and as far as Cachelly Pagoda. That the Croffrys are in the Company's Garden, and Lally's Regiment in the old Pagoda further north called Mallezar's Pagoda. That Mr. deBussy is gone with three hundred Europeans to join Raza Saib in order to oppose Usoff Cawn.

Saturday, the 23rd.—" The firing was kept up last night very briskly, as for some nights past, upon the enemy's parallel as well as upon the other parts where we were informed they are at work. Their parallel seems to be but little advanced, but the French dispersed.

" As it is reasonable to think that publick demonstrations of joy upon occasion of victory gained by Colonel Ford might have a good effect by raising the spirits of our people and producing the contrary on the enemy, it was therefore resolved to put the whole garrison under arms and to march them into the covered way, which it was supposed would alarm the enemy and bring them to their front post, and so expose them the more to our shot, and then to fire twenty-one guns into different parts of their quarters and works, and give three running fires from the covered way of the whole garrison, which was executed accordingly.

Sunday, the 24th.—"Yesterday a soldier was tried by a General Court Martial for locking his piece at his Serjeant and threatening to kill him and received sentence of death which was executed this day. Severe examples being thought absolutely necessary at this time to prevent disorders at the garrison which might prove fatal.

Tuesday, the 2nd.—"The French cannonading during the day. Most of the shells were directed at the houses and a great many at the Governor's quarters in the Fort House; two fell in it and broke through the first terras and twelve or thirteen others fell in or upon the building of the Inner Fort.

Sunday, the 7th January.—"The enemy threw many shells in the night and at day-break began to batter with their cannon; their shells all this day continued as before to be directed chiefly at the houses by which many are already in ruin. Their fire from Lally's Battery was from seven cannons and seven mortars, and from the Lorrain Battery from seven cannons and one howtz: as yesterday; they also opened another Battery this morning to the left of the Burying Ground, from whence they fired with two pieces on the left face of the North Lunette. The damage done to our works by the enemy's fire is not very great. The embrazures and platforms are more impaired by our own cannon than by their shot or shells, the greater part of which flew into or over the Town. A working party of 100 men are ordered to repair in the night with sand-bags the damaged embrazures on the old North-East, the Demy, the Royal and Pigot's Bastion, and 100 sepoys to get up two twenty-four pounders in the place of two which have had their muzzles knocked off on the North-East Bastion. The enemy's works appeared to be much disordered by our fire. They ceased firing about six this evening, and our working party in the covered way can plainly hear them repairing their embrazures and platforms. We have had one European, one Coffree, and one sepoy killed this day, and two Europeans and three sepoys wounded.

Monday, the 8th.—"The enemy ceased firing last night about sunset and began to throw shells again between eleven and twelve and continued so all night; they also began to fire from some cannon about two o'clock in the morning, and at daylight they began to play with the same guns and mortars and in the same direction as yesterday with the addition of two guns more from the Burying Ground, so that their battery at that place now consists of four guns. The damage done to the works this day is much more considerable than yesterday, the enemy have lowered their embrazures, having probably observed that many of their shots flew over. A working party of 100 Europeans and two Companys of sepoys are ordered to repair the damage done to the works.

Friday, 12th January.—"Pursuant to the Resolution taken yesterday, a sortie was made this morning to the southward. Major Cholmondely Brereton who commanded the sortie reports that half an hour after four o'clock this morning he marched from the covered way with one company of Grenadiers and a detachment consisting of three officers, three serjeants and eighty-three privates with four hundred sepoys. When his advanced party arrived near the Bar they were fired at by some sepoys the enemy had placed behind a trench, who then retired immediately. He then advanced through the topes into a lane which leads to the Governor's garden house, and there a trooper who was advanced before the party brought him word that the enemy were posted at the end of the lane and had one gun pointed the way our party was marching up; he thereupon gave orders for the advanced party of Grenadiers to move up briskly which they did, and gave their fire at about thirty yards' distance from the enemy. The enemy then fired their gun which was charged with grape, and then abandoned it, and we took possession; the enemy being quite dispersed, our people were drawing off the gun when the Commandant of sepoys brought word that there was another gun pointed towards the bridge leading to the Island and desired leave to draw it off which they did. The number killed and wounded of the enemy's not known. We took prisoners one officer (the Chevalier de———a Lieutenant of Lally's Regiment) and four private men. Our loss will appear by the report hereunder.

13th January.—"Lieutenant Charles Todd, Commandant of Sepoys, reports that the sepoys' arms and ammunition are in very bad orders, and in general their officers so ignorant of anything relative to military affairs and so totally unacquainted with discipline, that there is great difficulty in making them understand the most simple occasional orders.

19th January.—"It being judged from this intelligence that the enemy's design to make some attempt this night, the intended sally was countermanded and all the garrison ordered to lay under arms at their several alarm posts.

14th February.—"Before the moon rose the enemy advanced a galrionade about 30 feet in front of the stockade under cover of the bank of the glacis, and formed a traverse with a direct communication behind it to the stockade. This work was discovered by the light of the moon about 9 o'clock, and a constant fire of musketry, round and grape, was kept upon that part the whole night, and at day-break the old guards of the demi-place of arms and fascine Battery sallyed out and entirely destroyed the work the enemy had done in the night without any other accident on our part than two men slightly wounded.

16th February.—"As soon as it grew dark three lights were hoisted at the Flag Staff as a mark for the ships to come in; by about 8 o'clock at night the six ships anchored in the road, and to the great joy of the garrison, proved to be His Majesty's Ship *Queenborough*, Captain Kemperfelt, and the Company's Frigate *Revenge*, with the *Tilbury*, *Winchelsea*, *Prince of Wales*, and *Britannia* having on board six companys of Colonel Draper's Regiment. Mr. Pybus, one of the Council, went off with a letter from the Governor to Captain Kemperfelt to compliment him on his arrival, and to desire him to land as many of the soldiers as he can to-night, and Colonel Draper wrote off to Major Monson to the same effect, it being apprehended that if Mr. Lally does intend to make any push he will do it this night before our succours can come to our assistance; all the garrison, the Company's servants and inhabitants were therefore ordered under arms and continued so the whole night at their several alarm posts, and about two companys were landed from the ships in the night. A constant fire was kept upon the enemy's trenches which they sometimes returned and threw a few shells in the beginning of the night, but none after 11 o'clock. About midnight three deserters came in separately from St. Thome, and report that the French entirely abandoned that place, and left several mortars and some stores behind which were sent there to be embarked in boats and sent to Pondicherry. That their outposts have been ordered to join at the powder mill, and that the enemy intend to raise the siege and march off before day-break.

17th February 1759.—"About three in the morning the enemy set fire to several large piles of wood in the rear of their guard battery, and as soon as the day broke it appeared that the enemy had abandoned their trenches and batterys and were retreating, and about 9 o'clock in the morning they blew up the Powder Mill at Egmore.

"In the enemy's Hospital were found 44 sick and wounded soldiers without one person to attend them. Mr. Lally's sudden march may account for his leaving these people behind, but nothing can justify abandoning them without leaving a line to recommend them to our care. They however found humanity in their enemy which was denied them by their General; immediate orders were given that the same care should be taken of them as of our own people, and the greatest part have since recovered. The enemy's precipitate retreat prevented the destruction of the Black Town, which was fully intended as appears by Mr. Lally's letter of the 14th February. The houses in general have suffered notwithstandng considerable damage, as well by the loss of doors, windows, &c., which were useful to the enemy, as by our shot and shells. The Company's garden house and the houses belonging to the European inhabitants in the environs and at the Mount have suffered a severe fate; all of them are greatly damaged; some have only the walls left, and nothing but want of time prevented the total demolition of every one.

"In 1759 the Council again resumed their proper function."

The next volume examined is entered as one of the volumes of Military Proceedings, but its title is "Diary and Proceedings of the Committee for transacting affairs with the country Government." Began 1st January 1757.

"AT A COMMITTEE.

Present:

GEORGE PIGOT, Governor, *President.*
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLIAM PERCIVAL.
ROBERT PALK.

"Letter from Rear Admiral Pocock advising of his arrival at Negapatam in His Majesty's Ship *Cumberland.* This is to acquaint you by Pallamaw, Mr. Smith despatches that the *Cumberland* arrived here on the 14th in the evening in a very distressed condition, but being able to get round Point Palmiras, and very sickly, an extreme want of provisions having only six days. Rice and sugar at half allowance for the ship's company, of which two hundred and sixty-six were down with various disorders, but the worst was the scurvy, two hundred and eight being afflicted with that disease, and many must have died had they not been speedily sent on shore.

"The Chief has informed me a war was declared against France, the 17th May last, which news, I hope, will get to Mr. Watson's hands soon.

Bandarmalanka, 21st December.—"Mr. Bussey is lying with his camp at Beeswara, and I hear gives out that upon the first hostilities committed by us either by sea and land he will annoy us all he can.

3rd January 1757.—"Resolved that the colourmen of the sepoy companys have only six rupees a month confirmably to the Book of Military Regulations.

27th January 1757.—"Two letters received, dated 25th May, by the Secret Committee of the East India Company. One of these is to give advice of the declaration of war and direct notice to be sent to Admiral Watson and to all the Company settlements. The other directs that Captain Brohier be sent to Bengal to fortify Fort William if the works here do not indispensably require his presence.

7th February 1757.—"An account of the yearly revenues belonging to the countries dependant on Trichinopoly as farmed for the year 1757."

" *11th February 1757.*

At a Committee present:—

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., Governor, *President.*
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
ROBERT PALK.
MR. PERCIVAL, indisposed.

The following letters received by the Ship *Sally* from the Select Committee at Bengal and Robert Clive, Esq., with a journal of military operations, are now read:—

Letter from the Select Committee at Bengal—

"Though no persons can have a higher opinion of the integrity of Colonel Clive than we have, or would more readily acquiesce to his judgment for conducting any military operations by land which may occur in the course of this expedition, yet we cannot conceive by what authority you have assumed a right in giving that gentleman the powers you have done, and therein treating us in the light of a subordinate notwithstanding you have admitted and addresses us as a Governor-in-Council.

"To John Brohier informing him that either yourself or Mr. Call should proceed to Calcutta. We desire therefore that you will consider the present state of the works at this place and acquiant us with your opinion whether it be most proper for you or him to go on that service.

From Captain Brohier.—"I beg leave to represent that it is of the utmost importance to the Company's welfare that the works of this place be completed in the most expeditious manner possible, and that as they will take up at least to the latter end of August to finish them, I conceive my presence is absolutly necessary here to do it.

"Fort David certainly is in a better condition than this place, and Mr. Call might be spared to go to Calcutta; but in case of a siege he is the properest person at St. David to direct what is to be done in the defence of it, being best acquainted with the strength or weakness of the several parts of that place, and as he has seen all the mines carried on, he must know how to make use of them better than any other person can do who has not had that advantage; he is carrying on the south curtain which, I hope, will be finished this summer and then the fort will be secure and safe on all sides.

"The Committee are as much surprised as concerned to find that the gentlemen at Bengal upon so secure a re-establishment of their affairs have not by this opportunity returned any of our troops. The tediousness of the passage which is mentioned by Colonel Clive as the only reason for his not coming up appears to be very insufficient, for the April passage is very much better than that of August.

" *Whitehall, 3rd June 1756.*

GENTLEMEN,

In consequence of your memorial of the 19th past, I have the satisfaction to acquaint you that the King has been pleased to order Vice-Admiral Watson to continue in the East Indies with such of the ships under his command as are in good condition for six months beyond the time to which his stay was before limited, in order that the settlement and trade of His Majesty's subjects in those parts may have all the protection from the King's ships as the present situation of public affairs will allow of.

HENRY FOX."

Letter from Colonel Forde, describing the assaults in Nellore, 9th May 1757.

" Last night I received your favour of the 30th ultimo, since which we have had a most damnable brush and suffered considerably, as you will see by the enclosed list of the killed and wounded.

" No man here ever saw so brisk an action whilst it lasted, and I must do the officers and men the justice to say that they behaved with the most undaunted resolution and bravery.

Attempt to capture Madura.—" I have this moment received a letter from Captain Calliaud, desiring me to acquaint you, gentleman, that he made an attempt to escalade a weak part of Madura Fort, which was rendered fruitless by their ladders breaking down, occasioned by the men's too eagerly mounting; however, he had the good fortune to return safe to his camp without the loss of a single man.

" As the works necessary to be raised at Bengal will require that the ground be tryed and well piled, I must request you will grant me the liberty to carry with me the boring tools which were brought out by Mr. Robins for the purpose and are now at St. David, as also the engine I have made here for driving piles.

" I must request also the favour of carrying with me either Christopher Macklin or John Dyer, European Master brick-layers, as they are accustomed to line out works, and will be useful to forward the service there, as I am informed the people at Bengal are entirely unacquainted with our method of working.

I am, &c.,
JOHN BROHIER.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10th May 1757.

" TO

THE HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT AND GENTLEMEN
OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

" The number of sepoys now appointed to proceed with our troops to the southward are as follow:—

" From Madras and Poonamallee, five hundred.

"From Carangoly, three hundred, and of those with Colonel Forde, three hundred.

"Agreed that Jamal Saib, an old and experienced Subidar, do command the sepoys upon the expedition, and ordered that he make ready five hundred of the best men, and at the same time examine those that will remain here, and report if any of them are unfit for the service."

Letter from Captain Jos. Smith, Commanding at Trichinopoly. Part of the enemy's army cross the river and take possession of Wariour Pagoda.

"To

STRINGER LAWRENCE AND ALEXANDER WYNCH, ESQS.

GENTLEMEN,

The party under command of Monsr. D'Auteuil were no sooner crossed the Colleroon than a detachment in the dusk of the evening marched and took possession of Wariour Pagoda, at which place they yet remain, plundering cattle and everything else that comes to hand, nor is it in my power to check them in the least while out of cannon shot from our garrison; the greatest part of their Battalion, with artillery and baggage, moved up the island to the topes at which place they crossed; where next they intend to march and what schemes are in view a few days will show us; it's said they have 500 Europeans besides above 100 Hussars mounted.

"I advised Captain Calliaud from the first notices of their coming, and wish with all my heart he was returned, that we might not be idle spectators, while our enemys are breathing not but destruction to us all. They will be mistaken, and should they offer to make an attempt on our garrison, Monsr. D'Auteuil will, I fancy, meet with a reception that may cool his courage, however so warm it may be.

"Excuse me, Gentlemen, if I beg you to acquaint the Select Committee of this, as at present I have so much business in hand that I have scarce a moment to myself.

I have, &c.,
JOSEPH SMITH.

TRICHINOPOLY,
14th May 1757.

24th May 1757.—"We have appointed Jamal Saib, who is esteemed a trusty Subidar, to be Commander of the Sepoys upon this expedition."

From Colonel Aldercron, Commanding the army in the field.—"At my first setting out it was hinted to me that the officers of the regiment expected to have my table; I replied that had you such an intention you would have mentioned it to me; however, I have regulated it so that I have eight of them in their turn besides my own family which I think is a sufficient number."

Letter from George Pigot and Committee.—"An Aid-de-Camp is a new officer in the field, as that duty has generally been done by the Secretary to the Commanding Officer. Mr. Reith must be satisfied therefore with receiving the same the other Lieutenants do.

"The Company make a very handsome allowance to all the officers in the field to bear their extraordinary charges; we therefore cannot but be much surprised that any one should imagine he has a right to your table, which is left entirely to your own management, and we do not doubt but that sensible of the heavy charge the Company is at, you will put it upon the most frugal footing that can be consistently with your station.

GEORGE PIGOT AND COMMITTEE.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
3rd June 1757.

Letter from Captain Calliaud.—"The night after my arrival the French raised the siege and recrossed the river."

Letter from Captain Brohier, who being on the point of embarking for Bengal, represents the works most necessary to be completed at Madras, 10th June 1757.

13th June 1757.—"We enjoin you strictly to take particular care that the troops under your command do not at any time oppress or injure the inhabitants of the country either on their persons or effects. Their peace and security is indeed to be one of the first objects of your attention.

16th June 1757.—"The Ship *Marlborough* being under dispatch for Bengal, I agreed that letters be wrote by that opportunity to the gentlemen of the Select Committee there, Admiral Watson and Colonel Clive acquainting them of the French having raised the siege of Trichinopoly upon Captain Calliaud's succeeding in throwing himself into the Fort, and of the news we have lately received that our Fatcories at Ingeram and Maddepollam are taken by the French, and our apprehensions that Vizagapatam may undergo the same fate should Monsr. Bussy bend his force that way.

"And as Vizagapatam is a settlement of very considerable value to our Hon'ble Masters, as well as for the quantity of cloth it provided, as in consideration of its being now the only inlet to the northern countries left in our possession, we are in opinion that it is necessary to secure it by all means possible against the attack of the enemy. But as the superiority of the French in this province, and the unfinished state of our fortifications, will by no means suffer us to weaken ourselves by any detachments from hence, and as vessels have frequently been known to leave Bengal early in July and make their passage to Vizagapatam, it is agreed to write to Colonel Clive directing him to embark as many of the men which are destined to be returned to the coast as he conveniently can on board such vessels as he may be able with the assistance of Admiral Watson and the Select Committee to procure; and dispatch them early in July with directions to land at Vizagapatam, if the state of that Settlement should render it necessary, recommending at the same time that he leave Bengal himself with the rest of the men that are to be returned, so early that he may be able to call at Vizagapatam on his way hither, and give such assistance as he may see necessary to the Company's affairs there. To Admiral Watson, that we depend on his giving Colonel Clive for the service before-mentioned the assistance of the twenty-gun ship, or any other part of the squadron that may be ready for the sea.

17th June 1757.—" And the President acquaints the Committee that upon the first moving of the troops into the field Colonel Lawrence offered his service to assist Colonel Aldercron as a volunteer, and acquainted him with his intention to join the camp on the arrival of the army at Fort St. David on their way to Trichinopoly.

20th June 1757.—" Letter to Colonel Aldercron showing the inconvenience of his assuming the command of the army in the field and pressing him to stay at Madras.

23rd June 1757.—Answer of Colonel Aldercron.—" In order to prevent the sequel of a paper-war of which I have already but too much experience, I shall come to the matter in question, which is, that I can't comply with your request in remaining at Madras whilst His Majesty's troops are in the field, as I am very sure in so doing I should incur His Majesty's displeasure; besides I have great reason to believe you intend the command of the army for Colonel Lawrence. I have, as well as you, Gentlemen, a great opinion of his military capacity; this joined with his knowledge of the situation of this country, I believe would be of infinite service, if he joined us. Any military operation you have, to propose I shall according to my instructions assemble my Council of War and if their opinion should not be agreeable to your inclinations I shall be sorry for it, but as I must believe them better judges in military affairs shall be determined by them.

I am, &c.,
JOHN ALDERCRON.

CAMP AT CHINGLEPUTT,
21st June 1757.

28th June 1757.—" Translate of an olla or letter which the King of Travancore proposed writing to the Governor of Madras, the 17th December 1756, and for that purpose sent it to Anjengo to be wrote in English.

" An alliance with the King of Travancore might prove of much advantage to the Company's affairs and secure the peace of those parts of the Tinnevelly country adjacent to his limits, and as it appears by his above letters to the President that he is not averse to adjusting his claims on some districts of that country, it is agreed that a letter be wrote to the King of Travancore acquainting him that if he will send us a fair statement of what has happened in relation to them, we will compare it with the accounts we receive from the Nabob and settle the affair in an amicable manner. In the meantime that we desire nothing may interrupt his old friendship with the English, and that until affairs are settled the countries may remain as they are, to which purpose he should send orders to his officers to cease all hostilities, as we have done on our part. Ordered accordingly, that a copy of the King of Travancore's letter to the President and his answer be transmitted to Captain Calliaud, that he may do whatever he shall see necessary to establish a good understanding between us and the Prince.

29th June 1757.—Letter to the King of Travancore.—" A whole kingdom is not to be considered where our friendship is concerned; how then can a few villages cause any difference between us. Until the agreement is settled let everything remain upon its present footing and no disturbance be committed on either side.

22nd September 1757.—"As His Majesty's intention in ordering Colonel Aldercron's return home is undoubtedly to remove the inconveniences which have been occasioned by his exerting a separate authority, it would be conforming in the most perfect manner to those orders and intentions if he would himself take his passage on the first vessel which will be the *Prince Henry Packet.* And as we apprehend that the conduct of any military operations may still be under difficulties if he stays, although so large part of his regiment is delivered over to the Company's officers, it is agreed to give him our opinion of the intention of his late orders, assuring him at the same time that he shall be provided with the best accommodation possible if he chooses to proceed by this conveyance.

Letter from Colonel Aldercron. "I have received your letters in answer to the most material part of it; I am to inform you that His Majesty's orders are to be implicitly obeyed by all officers in his service, without daring to presume to form any judgment of His Royal intentions, and am also to acquaint you that it is my indispensable duty to be the last man of my regiment that embarks.

"I shall impatiently wait your information of the number of officers and men that can be accommodated on board the *Prince Henry Packet*, that I may without delay give orders for their embarkation in obedience to His Majesty's commands signified to me by the Secretary at War.

I am, &c.,
JOHN ALDERCRON."

MADRAS,
22nd September 1757.

News of the Revolution in Bengal.

"At a Committee present:—

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., Governor, *President.*
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
ROBERT PALK.

"By the Sloop *Watson* arrived yesterday from Bengal and His Majesty's Ship *Triton* which came in this morning received the following letters and papers, *viz.*—

No. 1. Letter from the Select Committee at Bengal, dated 13th August 1757.
„ 2. Letter from Colonel Clive, dated 2nd July 1757.
„ 3. Ditto ditto dated 3rd August 1757.
„ 4. Ditto ditto dated 12th September 1757.
„ 5. Six letters from Surajat Dowlah, the late Nabob of Bengal, to Mr. Bussy and Mr. Law and one from Mr. Law to the Chief of Sydabad.
„ 6. Journal of military operations on the expedition to Muxadavad.

"The foregoing papers containing a full narrative of the late unhappy Revolution in Bengal are ordered to be entered in a separate book*.

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* This work was carefully studied by me and a great portion of its contents will be embodied in the next volumes of Selections from the State papers.

"And the following letters from Vice-Admiral Watson, dated 11th August, two from Rear-Admiral Pocock, dated 18th August and 29th September, one from the Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Bengal, dated 27th September, and one from Colonel Clive, dated 27th September, containing advice of the disposition of His Majesty's ships and of the Land Forces, are ordered to be here entered, *viz.*—

"To

GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., &c.,
Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Madras.

Gentlemen,

"I have the favour of your several letters of the 30th ultimo, 27th May, and the 16th and 29th June.

"You seem to have been much disappointed at not receiving by the *Revenge, Protector*, and *Marlborough* a part of your troops from this Settlement. Your own situation, and the opinion you had of the good establishment of the Company's concerns were upon in Bengal, were no doubt motives sufficient to justify you in your expectations of a reinforcement from hence. When you hear from the Committee here, to whose letters I refer you, what use has been made of the troops since the taking of Chandernagore, I take it for granted you then will conclude they were detained for a good purpose, for without this last stroke the Company would have been constantly embarrassed, notwithstanding we had met with in all our military operations all the success we could even wish for. But since this last turn of affairs the Company have a different prospect before them, and if they keep a sufficient force here to preserve the right and privileges granted them Bengal must be of more consequence than ever it was.

"I observe in your letter of the 30th April you have some hopes of part of this little squadron being left in India till the arrival of some men-of-war from England; and that you have founded your expectations on Mr. Fox's answer to the memorial presented to His Majesty by the Company. I must confess I can discover no reason in his answer for your expecting such a request as you have made me to be complied with. The orders I have received are to the same purport as what Mr. Fox told the Company. That is, instead of my returning in the beginning of this year, as I was before directed, I am ordered to continue six months longer, and then proceed with the squadron under my command to England, and as the time then limited me is now expired, surely I cannot be justified by my orders in leaving any ship behind me; indeed from your expression of *such ships of the squadron as may be in a fit condition to remain*, I should imagine you had forgot how many ships there were, and the condition they were in, when I left Madras. *Kent* you may remember was so very weak and in such a bad condition as to render her proceeding to Bengal hazardous, without reducing her to a 40-gun ship and taking our great part of her stores to ease her in a sea. The service the *Kent* has since been employed on in this river has quite demolished her, and rendered her incapable of ever being made fit for His Majesty's service again. This loss reduces the squadron to only three ships of force and two frigates, and not one of them can be supposed to be in a condition to remain in India after having been three years in the country except the *Triton*, and she alone could be of very little service to you if I had power to leave her behind me. As for the *Bridgewater* she has by an unlucky accident of parting her cable struck, it is supposed, on the flook of an anchor, which has occasioned so large a leak that she must be laid ashore again; what condition she may be found in I can't judge, but her leak now is very considerable.

"When you seriously have considered the state and number of the squadron, and the words of my orders, I presume you cannot think yourselves justifiable in asking for any part of the squadron to remain, and I am persuaded you cannot be surprised at my refusing your request.

"I hope to be able to call upon the coast in my way to Bombay, but as that will depend upon the time of my sailing from hence, which is very uncertain, the pilots seeming to decline to take charge of the ships till the freshes are over, I therefore can say nothing positive about it, for which reason I shall leave the King's troops behind me.

"I am perfectly well satisfied with Captain Townley for complying with the request you made him, and think he acted very prudently in so doing.

"I was much concerned when I heard the loss of Vizigapatam, but much more so when I knew the whole garrison were made prisoners of war, as you are thereby deprived of the use of so many men at a time you are so much in want of a reinforcement. It's well Trichinopoly did not suffer the same fate.

"We hourly are in expectation of hearing from the coast of the arrival of a Europe ship. A Dutch ship is lately arrived in the river from Batavia, but she brings no intelligence of any squadron coming into the East Indies, either English or French.

I am, &c.,
CHARLES WATSON.

CALCUTTA,
The 11th August 1757.

"*P.S.*—I beg the favour you will deliver the enclosed to Captain Townley.

"To

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., &c.,
Members of the Select Committee at Madras.

GENTLEMEN,

"I am extremely concerned to inform you that Mr. Watson was taken ill of a fever, the 13th, and died the 16th instant. I make no doubt you will share in the general concern, which is shown very deeply at this place, by people of all ranks and conditions.

"I have nothing in particular to add, but refer you to Mr. Watson's answer, dated the 11th, to your letter to him of the 3rd, and shall be glad to be able to get out of this river at a proper season to call at Fort St. George in my way to Bombay.

"The time of complying with His Majesty's orders of returning to England with the squadron is expired, therefore must proceed as soon as the ships can be properly refitted for the passage; but at the same time assure you that while the short time I have to remain in this country will permit, shall on all occasions be ready to imitate my predecessor in exerting my utmost abilities to promote the Company's interest.

I am, &c.,
GEORGE POCOCK.

CALCUTTA,
18th August 1757.

"To

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., &c., *Gentlemen of the Committee at Madras.*

GENTLEMEN,

"Your letters, dated the 8th and 9th instant, directed to Admiral Watson, came to my hands the 22nd by the *Triton.* My dispatches sent to you, dated the 18th of last month, returned here yesterday, the sloop they went in being disabled in the latitude of 15° 00″.

"This goes by the *Watson* sloop, and duplicates by the *Triton,* who is dispatched to look out for Commodore Steevens, and will call at Pulicat for any intelligence you may have lodged there.

"The arrival of the French squadron at Pondicherry has altered the measures I purposed to take with His Majesty's ships; therefore, have resolved to remain here at least till I can have further intelligence of the strength and destination of the French squadron. Fort William not being in any sort of conditions to defend itself against any number of the enemy's ships, and the *Cumberland* very leaky, shall endeavour to careen her here, and be ready to proceed on the coast so soon as the season will permit.

"If the French are so formidable as to be able to make an attempt on Bombay, I hope you will be able to inform me of it. From the manner of their equipment at their departure from Pondicherry, as well as by information from the Chiefs of Anjengo and Tellicherry, in case they should go round to the Malabar Coast, and at this season of the year, I do not apprehend they will attempt Fort St. George or Fort St. David.

"As the junction of the squadron appears at present so very necessary shall be glad that Mr. Steevens will proceed to Ballasore road as soon as possible and hope the *Cuddalore* sloop has joined him with your intelligence.

I am, &c.,
GEORGE POCOCK.

TYGER, OFF CALCUTTA,
29th September 1757.

"TO

THE HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., &C.,
Members of the Select Committee at Fort St. George.

GENTLEMEN,

"We have received your letter of the 8th instant and are extremely concerned; it is not in our power to assist you with the return of any of the troops in Bengal. The necessity of keeping every man we have is fully explained in our letters of the 13th August. Upon receiving intelligence of the arrival of a French squadron upon your coast, we thought it absolutely necessary to send the Directors and Council, officers, civil and military, and inhabitants of the late Colony of Chandernagore to the coast to prevent their assisting in any shape the French squadron, should they proceed this way to make any attempt on our settlement. The *Restitution* is freighted by the Board for that purpose, and the amount of that ship indemnified by the Company in case she should be taken in her passage to Pondicherry, or detained by the French on her arrival there. We beg leave therefore to recommend your endeavouring to settle a cartel for that ship with the Governor and Council of Pondicherry before her arrival, to prevent the Company's suffering the loss of R45,000 which they have engaged to make good to the owners in case she is taken or detained as beforementioned.

We are, &c.,
ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*
ROBERT CLIVE.
JAMES KILPATRICK.
RICHARD BECHER.

FORT WILLIAM,
27th September 1757.

" Please to forward the packet by this sloop for the Secret Committee in England, separate from that on the *Syrian.* The *Restitution* will sail about the 3rd October.

"To
THE HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ.,
President and Governor, and Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Madras.

GENTLEMEN,

"I addressed you from Muxadabad the 12th instant, in readiness for the *Marlborough,* who was in the point of sailing for the coast with several other vessels, when the *Revenge* brought an account of the arrival of the French ships at Pondicherry. She was soon followed by the *Triton* with your favours of the 8th and 9th instant.

"The uncertainty of the force of the French ships prevents Mr. Pocock from resolving what measures to pursue—whether to proceed to Bombay or refit here. The arrival of the *Duke,* which we impatiently expect, will probably enable him to determine.

" Mr. Andrews is arrived here from Bandarmalanka, which he left the 14th. The news of our success at Muxadabad had reached there some days before, and I conclude must soon after have been known in Madras, though the Pattamars I dispatched should have been intercepted. Unfortunately the sloop that carried the duplicate advices sprung her mast in a violent storm off Vizagapatam and is returned. It is with great pleasure I understand that the troubles at Golcandah have obliged Monsr. Bussy to march that way.

"The affairs of this Province continue in quietness. Nothing has occurred since my last except the arrival of the detachment from Patna.

I have, &c.,
ROBERT CLIVE.

CALCUTTA,
27th September 1757.

(*Duplicate.*)

" It is with the highest satisfaction the Committee receive the accounts of so astonishing and happy a turn in the affairs of the Province of Bengal, and although many advantages might have been obtained on this coast had our troops returned in April, yet we are perfectly sensible that none could have accrued equal to the good consequences which have attended their stay in

Bengal. If, therefore, it is reasonable to judge by consequences, the Gentlemen of the Committee at Bengal and Colonel Clive may well say we did not consult the general cause when we so much pressed the return of our troops; but as this is not a fair way of judging, we rather choose to refer to the letters which we received the 28th April from those Gentlemen giving an account of the taking of Chandernagore and particularly Colonel Clive's letter, which mentions the execution of many parts of the treaty made with Surajah Dowla, shows not the least reason for suspecting that he had designs contrary to that treaty, nor on our part the least shadow of an intention to commence hostilities again. Such was the state we had to judge by. There was not to us the appearance of an enemy in the Province of Bengal except those few French who has escaped with Mr. Law from Chandernagore. In such circumstances in Bengal, and far inferior to the French on the coast, we doubt not but our Hon'ble Masters will think we could not too frequently, nor too pressingly, recommend the return of some part of our troops.

"It would be doing injustice to the memory of Admiral Watson not to have here recorded the sensible concern with which we receive a confirmation of the news of his death. His bravery and the disinterested zeal with which he undertook every service that offered for the benefit of the Company are characteristics by which he will ever be remembered in India.

"By the vessels arrived from Bengal we have the pleasure to hear that they met the *Warwick*, Captain Webb, going into the river.

"Captain Calliaud advises in a letter to the President, dated the 15th instant, that Chetteput was taken by the French the 14th in the morning by assault and escalade. That the loss of the enemy is computed to be five hundred men killed and wounded, Europeans and Sepoys. Some reports mention the next design to be against Arcot, others say against Tinnevelly.

"Ordered, that Captain Calliaud do examine what provisions are in the Nabob's magazines at Arcot, and that he be directed to keep the garrison constantly stored for three months.

"As the garrison of Chingleput has now above one hundred Europeans and five companies of Sepoys, and as that place is near at hand to be relieved from hence in case of necessity, it is ordered that an officer and thirty men with one company of Sepoys be sent from thence to Arcot, and that Captain Calliaud do advise Captain Gardener when the roads are safe.

"The *Triton* man-of-war being sent up by Admiral Pocock purposely to look for Commodore Steevens, and ordered to wait only twenty-four hours and then return to Bengal, agreed that a letter be prepared with all expedition to Admiral Pocock acquainting him that we have no intelligence of Commodore Steevens; that we have lodged a letter at Atcheen recommending him to proceed to this coast as soon as possible; that we shall now write to Bombay and forward one copy of his (the Admiral's) orders to Mr. Steevens to join him at Ballasore. But as Mr. Watson's passage to this coast from Bombay in December was only one month, and Captain James from Bombay to Ballasore at the same season near five months, it is agreed to recommend to the consideration of Commodore Steevens whether he can reach Ballasore before Mr. Pocock leaves it, in which case we should be glad to see him here on his way, as it may be a means of the more speedy junction of the two squadrons.

"Agreed also to write to Admiral Pocock, the Gentlemen of the Committee at Bengal, and Colonel Clive of the success of the French against Chingleput; that we are yet unacquainted with their further designs, remarking to them in general that as many concurring reports give room to apprehend the French will be further reinforced in December or January, it will be necessary that all the protection and assistance be given to this coast.

"Colonel Aldercron having ordered some of those officers and men of the Regiment who do not choose to remain in India to embark on the *Tavistock* for Bombay in order to be provided at that place with a passage to Europe, as the two ships dispatched from hence cannot accommodate the whole, it is ordered therefore that a copy of the Court of Directors' letter to the President and Council and of the Secret Committee's letter to the President and Commitee, dated the 1st of February last, relating to the embarkation of the Regiment for Europe be transmitted to the Select Committee at Bombay, and that they be at the same time informed that the method intended to be practised here is only to give the Commanders of the Ships orders to receive them on board as Charter-party Passengers.

"Agreed also to acquaint the Select Committee at Bombay and the Chiefs of Anjengo and Tellicherry of the advices received since we wrote last.

"Ordered that another letter to the Secret Committee advising of the Resolution in Bengal be prepared to be sent to Bombay by the *Tavistock* and by Pattamar, to be forwarded from thence in the most expeditious manner to England."

After reading the above volumes I examined some of the military bundles which contain many letters of interest. A letter from Clive contains the following:—

6th July 1756.—" Fort St. David. It is recommended to us particularly to avoid hazardous enterprises: were hazardous enterprises ever undertaken by men of prudence but in desperate circumstances, and can there be more effective method, though if to save her settlements from the hazardous enterprises of our enemies, than by the vigorous assistance of His Majesty's *squadron.*"

G. W. FORREST,
Officer in charge of the Records
of the Govt. of India.

G. I. C. P. O.—No. 798 F. D.—8-2-92.—250.

Tuesday, the 28th.

At a Consultation, Present:

Charles Floyer, Esqr., *President & Governour.*

Edward Croke.

Richard Prince.

Alexander Wynch.

Stringer Lawrence.

William Holt.

Foss Westcott.

A Letter from Mr. Robt. Clive concerning an affairs between him and Mr. Fordyce.

They are both ordered to attend ye, Board for a hearing.

A letter from Mr. Robert Clive read as enter'd hereafter setting forth that as he is inform'd the Revd. Mr. Fordyce some days since preferr'd a Complaint to the Board against him. He therefore requests they will Examine into the Cause of the said Complaint, of his Justification. Whereupon the Secretary is ordered to Summons the Reverend Mr. Fordyce to attend on Friday next at 9 oClock in the Forenoon. When its agreed to hold a Consultation to examine into this Affair, and that he bring with him such Persons as he thinks necessary to prove what he has to Alledge against Mr. Clive, who is also ordered to give his attendance at that time.

* * * * * * * *

Signed CHARLES FLOYER.
" EDW. CROKE.
" STRINGER LAWRANCE.
" RICHD. PRINCE.
" W. HOLT.
" A. WYNCH.

To—The Hon'ble Charles Floyer, Esqr., President & Governour, &ca., Council of Fort St. David.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,—I have been informed that the Reverend M. Fordyce some days ago preferr'd a Complaint against me to your Honour, &ca., this therefore is to request that your Honour, &ca., will be pleased to examine into the Cause of the Said Complaint for the Justification of

Your most obedt. humble Servant,
Signed ROBERT CLIVE.

Fort,

28th February 1748-9.

Friyday, the 3rd.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

CHARLES FLOYER, ESQr., *President & Governour.*

EDWARD CROKE.

RICHARD PRINCE.

ALEXANDER WYNCH.

STRINGER LAWRANCE.

WILLIAM HOLT.

FOSS VESTCOTT.

* * * * * *

a Letter from Mr. Fordyce.

proceedings relating to the Affair between him & Mr. Robt. Clive.

Proceedings relatg. to the Affair between Mr. Fordyce & Mr. Clive.

A Letter from the Reverend Mr. Fordyce read as Enter'd hearafter setting forth that it was never his Intention to trouble the Board with the Affairs between Mr. Clive and him, and that he only mention'd it to the Governour and Major Lawrance, as he thinks their knowing it, may be Conducive to favour a further Prosecution of Mr. Clive and his Accomplices, apprehending there is no proper Courts of Judicature in these parts to try it, however as it is their Orders; he shall attend at the appointed Time. The Gentlemen on hearing the Contents of this Letter, are a good deal surpriz'd that Mr. Fordyce should now say, he never intended to trouble them with the affair, as all his Conduct hitherto, so evidently Evince the Falsity of such an Assertion. For on the 16th or 17th Ultimo, he waited on the President and Strenuously desired that the affair might be heard before him and the Gentlemen of Council, saying yt if such things were taken no notice of, it might be pernicious Consequence, to which the Governour return'd him for Answer that he was then very busy on Despatching the *Porto Bello* for Europe, and had not time to examine his Complaints, but that when she was sail'd there should be a Consultation held on purpose (Major Lawrance & Mr. Bourcheir were present at the greatest part of his discourse). On the 19th following being Sunday the Governour sent for him between the hours of 8 & 10 in the forenoon, and spoke to him in words to this Effect. You have made a Complaint to me concerning your being Assaulted by Ensign Clive, set forth the same in writing, addressing it to me and the Council, and it shall be examin'd into; to which Mr. Fordyce replied he would, and ask'd if it must be ready against day, but the Governour told him there was no occasion for that, as they were still busy in despatching the *Porto Bello.* From these Circumstance it appears pretty plain that Mr. Fordyce (notwithstanding what he says in his Letter) did fully intend to bring this Affair before the Board, and that he had altered his mind; But what were his reasons for so doing are but imperfectly known; however the Board have been credibly informed that the Gentlemen he designed for his Evidencys desir'd him to excuse their appearence, telling him that what they could say upon the Occasion would not be such to his advantage, as to their knowledge he had not been wanting to Asperse the Characters of most of the Hon'ble Board, as also of several other persons, and had made use of many Expressions very unbecoming a Man of his Function, and as Mr. Fordyce might possibly be conscious of the truth of this, and of the bad light he must consequently appear in if the Affair was examin'd to the bottom? 'tis no wonder he should chuse to decline it, and to refer the prosecution of it to Europe, where he would not Labour under the Disadvantage of having his character so thoroughly known. But Mr. Clive being aware of the great advantage Mr. Fordyce would have in accusing him in his absence, Requests the Board would be pleased to bring the matter to a hearing before them, in order that the same may appear upon our Records for his Justification. In compliance with which Request 'Its agreed to make the best enquiry we can into this Affair, and to that end Mr. Fordyce is now call'd before the Board, Mr. Fordyce delivers in a protest.

Behaves rudely to the Board.

Mr. Fordyce dismissed the Service.

and desir'd to acquaint them with the particulars of the Assault he says Mr. Clive made upon him, whereupon he deliver into the Secretary's hand a Protest with a pagoda, desiring the same may be enter'd after this Consultation, and that he may have an Attested Copy of it, which Protest being read sets forth. That as Mr. Clive has desir'd that the Violence and Riot should be heard and try'd here before the Hon'ble the Governour & Council in & with a Sinister view of eluding the Just Sentence of the Law usually Inflicted in such Criminal Cases, by alledging that he has already been tryed here, or such Subterfuge & Evasion, and that therefore he cannot be tryed a second time any where else; He (Mr. Francis Fordyce) therefore Protests against and forbids this cause to be hear'd or try'd, directly or indirectly before the Hon'ble Board, for special reasons he need not mention, they being well known: The Board having directed it to be enter'd and an attested Copy to be delivered to Mr. Fordyce, then asked him if he disputed their Authority, to which he gave them no direct answer; but being ask'd the same a second timé, he rudely replied he would answer no Question's, and so left the room abruptly, which so extraordinary Behaviour being taken into consideration, the Gentlemen are Unanimously of Opinion, that as it is Evident he disputes their Authority, and for his Insolence Behaviour, he is no longer worthy to be entertained in the Service of the Hon'ble Company, from which 'Its agreed he be dismiss'd and the Secretary is ordered to acquaint him therewith, and that his allowances will cease from this day. Then the Gentlemen directed Mr. Clive to be call'd in, as also Messrs. Dalton & Worth, whom Mr. Fordyce in his protest accuses of being his accomplices, and the said protest being read to them Mr. Clive is desired to acquaint the Board with the particulars of the Affair, when hé replied as follows:—

Mr. Clives Deposition Concerning that affair.

That being at Dinner with Messrs. Dalton & Worth on or about the 16th day of February at Bandipollam, they told him Mr. Fordyce had said to a Gentleman in publick Compy. that he was a Scoundrel and a Coward, and that he had shook his Cane over him in the presence of Mr. Levy Moses, Mr. Clive further says that some time before this he had been inform'd by Captn. Cope that Mr. Fordyce did in Conversation with him threaten to break every Bone in his Skin, and he says that these repeated abuses so irritated him that he could not forbear on meeting Mr. Fordyce in Cuddalore to reproach him with his Behaviour, which he told him was so injurious he could bear it no longer, and thereupon struck him two or three times with his Cane, which at last Mr. Fordyce returned and then clos'd in with him, but that they were presently parted by Captain Lucas who happen'd to be by. Mr. Clive further observes that he is not the only person who has been abus'd and Calumniated by Mr. Fordyce, who had also aspers'd the Character of Mr. Joseph Fowke, by saying he was a dark designing Villain, that he would slit his Nose the first time he met him, and that he had knock'd him under the Table at the Governours, He further says Mr. Fordyee had told Capt. Dalton at Mr. Beloches's that if every body would discourse the Governour in the manner he had done, it would alter affairs greatly, and that he had talk'd to him till he make him quake or shake in his Shoes, or words to that effect. Mr. Clive also says Mr. Lindsay told him he had heard Mr. Fordyce say that Mr. Bulkley was a Scoundrel and a Coward, and that he had shook his Cane at him as he had done at Mr. Clive. Mr. Clive further says he threaten'd to thrash Mr. Bourcheir, and that he had declar'd to several people, he had taken away Gentlemen's Swords before now, and would pull of his Canonicals at any time to do himself Justice; and lastly Mr. Clive says Mr. Lennox told him that Mr. Fordyce was generally shunn'd & detested both at St. Helena and the West Coast on account of his medling Disposition wch render'd him disagreeable and obnoxious to every one.

Signed ROBERT CLIVE.

To—The Hon'ble Charles Floyer, Esqr., President & Governour of Fort St. David, &ca., Council.

Sir's,—I have received Mr. Bourchier's Letters of yesterday's date signifying your direction that I should attend you next Friday to prove my Allegation against Mr. Robert Clive for Assaulting me, and in answer thereto I beg leave to acquaint you that it never was nor is my Intention to give you any trouble in that affair having only mentioned it to the Governour and Major Lawrance, as I then thought and do now that their knowing of it might be somewhat Conducive to favour a further Prosecution of Mr. Clive and his accomplices, since I apprehend there is not a proper Courts of Judicature in these parts, where to try it, and as I conceive that no part of the Laws of England can justify Mr. Robert Clive or any other person in assaulting a clerk much less a Clergyman? However as it is your orders I shall attend at the Appointed Time, who am with Respect

Respect.—SIR'S

Your most obedient & most

CUDDALORE,
Humble Servant,

1st *March 1748-9.*
Signed FRAN. FORDYCE.

Whereas Ensign Robert Clive (being aided, assisted, Spirited up and abetted by Lieutenants John Dalton & John Worth, on or about the 16th of February last) did Assault and grievously Maletreat the Reverend Mr. Francis Fordyce, Clerk, contrary to all Law and good order, and against the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King, and whereas now the Said Robert Clive has desired that this Violence and Riot should be heard and try'd here before the Honourable the Governour and Council of Fort St. David, in and with a Sinister view of eluding the just Sentence of the Law usually Inflicted in Such Criminal Cases, by alledging that he has been already Try'd here, or such Subterfuge and Evasion, and therefore that he cannot be try'd a second time any where else. Therefore Mr. Francis Fordyce humbly by these Presents Protests against and forbids this Cause to be heard or try'd, Directly or Indirectly before the Honourable the Governour and Council of Fort St. David, for Special reasons I need not name, they being well known. Signed, Seal'd and presented by me in Fort St. David, where no Stamp'd paper is to be had this 3rd day of March 1748-9.

Signed FRAN. FORDYCE (L.S.)

Government of India Central Printing Office—No. 132 F. D.—19-9-92—500.

Bengal Public Consultations, 1750.

Fort William, May 1750.

To—THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President and Governor and Council.*

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—Pursuant to your orders of the 16th instant for sounding the river and laying the buoys, I repaired on board the *Mermaid* sloop the 20th; the other sloops appointed to assist on this occasion were the *Hawke* and two hired sloops, and Pilots, Messrs. Ashton, Smith and Cragg with all the masters and sloops' people that were from other duty, and in condition to go down the same day weighed, the wind southerly and worked down to Budge-Budge where we anchored towards evening.

The 21st, about noon, weighed and sounded down to Ryapoor Sand, the wind very strong at S.S.W.; we run up again to Myapoor, where we anchored towards evening.

The 22nd, weighed again about noon, the wind continuing as above; we sounded from Myapoor through Ryapoor Reath, Hog River, Fulta; over the James and Mary Sand, the middle ground of Cookerahutty, and down to the upper part of the Diamond Sand, where we anchored towards evening.

The 23rd in the morning weighed again, wind at S.S.W., strong gales; met the flood off Chingary, where we anchored at noon; weighed again and worked down to Rangafulla, where we anchored for the sloops to wood.

The 24th, at noon, weighed, the wind as above, and sounded to Channel Creek and across the E. and W. channel, and took particular notice how the buoy of the Mizen lay, which was laid in November, by the last year's bearings, which we think proper should lay and not be moved until further occasion; we worked down to Khedgerie and anchored in the evening.

The 25th, about 2 in the afternoon, weighed from Khedgerie and sounded through the passage Cowcolly; we laid a buoy on the N. W. extremity of the middle ground with the following bearings: the uppermost of the bamboo bushes west, lower point of Khedgerie N.N.E. in about 16 feet at low water; we anchored, the flood coming in, two miles below the buoy.

The 26th weighed about noon with winds as above, very fresh and a great sea, and sounded all the way down to the broken ground where we laid a buoy with bearings as follows: Ingillie Tree N. W.; Hummorks of Saugor S.E. to S.E.½E. in about 20 feet at low water; the sloop which we placed at the Barrabulla head, bearing S. S. W.; here abreast of the buoy sounded over the tail of the middle ground and across the channel, of which we shall take further notice in the general remarks, and the flood coming in, we anchored.

The 27th in the morning weighed and made several boards before the flood came in, and anchored again a little short of the Barrabulla Head; about noon weighed again, and we having the buoy intended to be laid at the Fairway, aboard the *Mermaid*, I ordered one sloop over towards the Long sand, the better to get a sight of Saugor and to bring it to bear N.E. of them, and another sloop to lay at the tail of the Barrabulla for marks; when the above sloops were in their proper stations and showed their signals, we took their bearings and laid the buoy of the Fairway, *viz.*, eastmost sloop or Saugor N. E., westmost sloop or edge of the Barrabulla N. by E.½E. in about 23 feet at low water.

Remark the 1st.—In our above proceedings have found no sensible alterations in sounding till we came down to the E. and W. channel, where to the south-eastward of the buoy of the Monow, where was last year 9 or 10 feet at low water, is not above 6 feet; that in crossing over, care must be taken not to haul to the S.E. of the buoy, but round it to the westward in coming up; and if a leading wind, and can see Channel Creek trees, keeping them E.N.E. or betwixt that E. by N. is a good leading mark over the flat till you come into deeper water, or even quite over.

Remark the 2nd.—The passage of Cowcolly is much the same, water as last year but somewhat lower down, as may be perceived by comparing the bearings of the buoys this year with the last.

Remark the 3rd.—From the buoy of the broken ground eastward over the tail of the middle ground is 3 fathoms at low water; and from the buoy westward quite across the channel found, but 3½ fathoms, and this shoal water continues down to the Barrabulla Head about 4 miles, where it is not safe for a ship of large draught of water to anchor on an ebb tide.

The Calcutta sloop that returned up with Mr. Scott the pilot sick, the 18th, I had given orders to Henry Walters, the Master, to proceed immediately down again to the road, but after leaving the town myself, finding it necessary to keep her to assist in laying the buoys, I kept her until we had laid the buoy of the Fairway, and discharged her this evening to proceed pursuant to order.

The 28th we, with the *Hawke* and *Mermaid*, bore up for Ingellee, it being quite necessary to repair the damage received to their sails by the boisterous weather we had agoing down, where I left them the 29th in the morning with orders to Mr. Ashton and Smith to repair into Ballasore road as soon as the weather should permit.

I am, with due respect,
Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
JONATHAN RANSON,
Master Attendant.

The 30th April 1750.

Exd.—J. W. DeB.

PUBLIC DESPATCHES TO ENGLAND, 1750-1751.

Genl. No. 18.

TO THE HONORABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS
For Affairs of the Honorable the United Company of Merchants of England
Trading to the East Indies.

HONOURABLE

* * * * * * *

Fourthly of Country Government.

36. Your Honours were advised by the *Elizabeth* of the Capital of the Kingdom of Tanjour being beseiged and drove to great streights by the French in conjunction with Mustapha Jing and Chunda Saib, and the little possibility there was if not succoured by Nazar Jung (who was daily expected) of its being able to hold out much longer; soon after that ships dispatch, on the news of his having entered the province and detached part of his army for the relief of that place, they broke up the siege and returned in so precipitate a manner that they left the major part of their battering cannon and mortars behind them, besides the loss they sustained in the siege by sickness &c. computed to be near five hundred Europeans. In their retreat they suffered little though continually harrassed by the Morattas detached for that purpose by Nazar Jung, and got into Pondicherry about the time he arrived at Arcot, who after some stay there bent his march to Tervedy twenty-five miles to the westward of this place from whence he sent a vackeel to the late President demanding assistance of such force as could be spared to act in conjunction with him against the common enemy, who by this time had again taken the field and encamped about twenty miles to the south-west of Pondicherry, and by the disposition they had made seemed resolved to stand an engagement. There number was about one thousand Europeans, two thousand Seapoys and Coffrees, with a large train of Artillery; also fifteen thousand Horse, belonging to Mustapha Jung and Chunda Saib. Accordingly orders were given to Captain Cope to march from Trichinopoly with the detachment under his command, and Major Lawrance shortly joined the army with what troops could be spared from this garrison, soon after which the whole army marched towards the French, who after a day's cannonading at too great a distance to do any damage retreated once more in so precipitate a manner as to leave ten pieces of cannon and two cohorns, being the major part of their train, behind them; the people belonging to which were cut to pieces. The Morattas pursued them as soon as they had notice of their flight but with little effect, and they again got safe into Pondicherry. Mustapha Jung, who drew his party from Chunda Saib, the next day threw himself at Nazar Jung's feet, was immediately ordered under confinement and still remains so. After the retreat of the French and Chunda Saib Nazar Jung encamped at a place called Waldoor, about seven miles to the westward of Pondicherry but did not chuse to approach nearer, Major Lawrance and Mr. Westcott having informed him our troops could not act in any shape against the French where they were principals, which must be the case, were they to advance into their bounds. In this encampment he continued a month, when decamping for Arcot he requested our troops might accompany him but the gentlemen insisting on having the grants of the Punoomalee country given them before they stirred, he went away without vouchsafing them an answer, on which the Ambassadors seeing the little dependance there was on him and the great expence the company were at in keeping the troops in the field, they were ordered to return hither, where they arrived the 22nd April.

Constn 12th March.

Constn 19th March.

Constn 31st March.

37. Not long after the return of our troops and Nazar Jung's being arrived at Arcot, the French in conjunction with Chunda Saib marched out again, ravageing and laying waste the country which they put under contribution whereever they came, and at length arrived at Tervedy, which after some resist-

ance they took, and from thence detached a party to Chellembrum situated about twenty-five miles to the south-west of this place, where after having plundered the suburbs, demanded a large sum from the Havildar promising not to molest the pagoda, which they had almost received, when Mahomud Ally wrote to the late President acquainting him of the above circumstances and moreover that the French were entrenching themselves at Tervedy which place they were also fortifying, assuring him of a sannad was being drawn out for us for the Poonamalee country which was lodged in the hands of a substantial merchant at Arcot and to be delivered to us on his commencing his Nabobship which would be in September; a copy he sent for the Governor and Council's perusal and at the same time a bill of exchange for twenty thousand rupees to defray the expences of our troops for two months in lieu of the revenues of Poonamalee for that time. The above circumstances being duly weighed, and the French having declared that they were resolved to make Chunda Saib Nabob against all opposition, which if they had accomplished would most certainly have been of the worst consequence to your affairs, it was determined that our troops should once more take the field and act in conjunction with Mahomud Ally who was coming from Arcot with a body of Horse and by that means put a stop to the rapid progress of the French and Chunda Saib, who were spreading destruction wherever they came. Accordingly Captain Cope marchout with six hundred men and a field train on the 30th June and joined the Nabob of the west-ward of Tervedy, from which place the French retreated leaving a garrison within, as also from before Chellumbrum without receiving the stipulated sum. Since our troops continued encamped till the middle of August, when finding there was little probability of coming to action, the French and Chunda Saib being again come out and encamped within a mile of them to the northward of Tervedy, and considering a state of inactivity could be of no manner of advantage to the Nabob's affairs and only a heavy charge to your Honours, as his people could never be induced to make an attack and was out of our power to do, and the officers and men daily falling sick, Major Lawrance with the advice of Messrs Starke and Powney, who were the only Acting Council on the spot, recalled the troops who immediately came in. A few days after the French embraced the opportunity, fell upon the Nabob's army, which they dispersed, burnt his camp, and he with such part of his scattered troops as could be gathered together retreated to Gingey, whither he was pursued by the French; but not chusing to trust himself in that fortress, went further inland and the French possessed themselves of the stronghold of Gingey.

Consln. 25th June.

38. The present designed for Nazar Jung and his officers being ready, which with the sundry camp charge amounts to Pagodas 25,715, Mr. Westcott set out to join Major Lawrance, for the particulars of which embassy we beg leave to refer you to the account delivered in by the Ambassadors at their return, and shall only observe that after repeated promises that their affairs should be settled to their satisfaction, finding nothing granted, and that it would be to little purpose to continue any longer at so fruitless an expence, they returned the 22nd April.

Constn. 26th March.

39. Mahomud Ally has been appointed Nabob of Arcot. We have received from him a grant of the Trevendaparum country for the services rendered him.

Constn. 26th Feby.

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78. That we might the better comply with your orders on this head, we appointed a committee of accounts, whose report we now transmit you with what original papers relating to the squadron we could find, an account of the Madras claims, and list of Madras books. We promise your Honours that your books, accounts, and everything relating to your affairs shall be kept in regular order, and the necessary sent you in the same manner as was usual before the loss of Fort St. George, and a very strict scrutiny made into all accounts.

Constn. 23rd Octr.

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81. No books or accounts have been transmitted us since the loss of Fort S^t^. George. We have now ordered the Deputy Governor and Council to be punctual in forwarding them to us by the conveyances that offer, when we shall appoint a Committee for their inspection as usual.

* * * * * * *

We are,

Honourable

Your faithfull humble Servants,

THOMAS SAUNDERS,
RICHARD STARKE.
HENRY POWNEY,
GEORGE PIGOT,
ROSS WESTCOTT,
ALEXR WYNCH.

Fort St. George.
The 24th October

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS
For Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies.

Honourable,

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9. We have acquainted your Honours with the late revolutions by the death of Nazar Jung and the steps we had taken induced thereto from the best judgement we could then make, by what we could learn from the camp before Pondicherry; though this treachery was agreeable to the disaffected party in Nazar Jung's camp who had been bribed by the French, yet when it was perceived a French settlement was become the metropolis of the province, every thing was Governed by their Councils, the treasure and jewels mostly possessed by them, and several large districts were to be granted, it occasioned a great discontent and murmuring and it was whispered that as soon as Mustapha Jung should have passed the bounds of this province it would break out into a flame. Sensible of this he engaged a French escort and had marched as far as Rachooty, a country under the Government of the Cuddapah Nabob, about five days distant from Arcot, when we learn from our Vackeel at Arcot, that Cuddapah and Cundanore Nabobs first shewed their resentment, Mustapha Jung having contrary to his promise marched through their country by which means it became subject to the plunder of the Morattas. They seized some French Horse and stoped their ammunition which brought on a general engagement wherein Mustapha Jung and part of the French were killed on one side, and on the other the Cundanore and Servanah Nabobs lost their lives. Nizam Ally Cawn, Nazar Jung's brother was proclaimed; he is by slow marches proceeding to Golcondah. 'Tis said the friends of the Cuddapah and Cundanore Nabobs are raising forces to oppose him. What effect this may have on the Arcot province we cannot say. Nizam Ally Cawn is a youth of eighteen years, several of the French party are near him, and whether to exterpate the whole family of the Nizam would not be acceptable at Court is a matter of speculation. Mahomed Ally Cawn is safe at Trichinopoly, who we have advised to push his interest at Court and raise troops to oppose his nemies.

10. It is a satisfaction to us to observe to your Honours that the measures we have pursued have at least prevented the province from falling entirely under French Councils, and was it in the power of the country Government to settle their own affairs, we might now hope to see the country once more in a flourishing condition, but this not to be effected; 'tis with concern that with

the greatest confidence we can assure you the French plan is to seize what part of the province they find necessary to their interest without the least regard to the laws of nations. The late action has no doubt given a check to their schemes, but they are still resolved to support Chunda Saib in his pretentions to the Arcot Government, and will probably insist on the places granted them by Mustapha Jung which will be the occasion of further troubles. We can only beg leave to refer your Honours to our request on this subject.

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We are,
Honourable,
Your faithfull humble Servts.,
THOS. SAUNDERS,
RICHD. STARKE,
CHARLES BODDAM,
HENRY POWNEY,
GEORGE PIGOT,
ROSS WESTCOTT,
ALEXR. WYNCH.

FORT ST. DAVID,
24th February 1750-51.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 667 F. D.—19-9-92.—500.

Bengal Public Consultations, 1751.

Fort William, 9th May 1751.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. WILLIAM FYTCHE.
JOHN HOLLAND.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.
WILLIAM WATTS.
THOMAS BURROW.
CHARLES MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BEECHER.

MR. JAMES BLACKFORD, continuing indisposed.

To the HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, Esq., President, Governor, &c., Council.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,—Pursuant to your Honor, &c., orders of the 22nd ultimo, I weighed from Calcutta the 24th ultimo, with the *Mermaid, Grantham* and *Hawke* sloops, and Messrs. Ashton, Smith and Robertson, Pilots; the Calcutta sloop being in company, where was Messrs. Pinatz and Crummys, Pilots, ordered to make the best of their way to Balasore road, but she happening to ground a little below Surmans garden, we lay by her the remaining part of the ebb, and she got off with the flood.

The 25th, in the morning, we weighed, having the latter part of an ebb tide with the wind out of the Eastern Board a light breeze, but it freshening towards low water. We overhauled the whole flood and by high water was down to Ingilli, having carefully sounded all the way here and the wind hauled round to the southward; that we boarded all the way down to the Fulta, and sounded clear through the channel; and also, when it was near low water, run up aback of the Fulta Sand called the Western Channel, having the three sloops in a line abreast, and made some boards down again the same channel, but the flood coming in, we anchored at Fulta about 6 in the afternoon off the Dutch Banksauls.

The 26th, at noon, weighed from Fulta, the wind fresh, southerly; we stood over into the Western Channel and boarded through and so proceeded down, sounding all the way, till about 4 in the afternoon anchored at Rogues River; squally, rain, thunder and lightening for about two hours in the night, weighed and went down to Rang-a-Fulla for the sloops to wood.

The 27th, at noon, weighed from Rang-a-Fulla, the wind very fresh at S.S.W.; sounded down to Channel Creek, and across the East and West Channel, and laid there a buoy on the S.W. extremity of the Mirson for crossing over —— with these bearings:—

Channel Creektrees N. E. to E. ¾ E.
Gullingham Island W. Point N. E. to N.
Kedgerie hightrees W. ½ S.
Lower point of Kedgerie S.S.W. ¾ W.

in about 18 or 19 feet at low water, the flood coming in about 6 in the afternoon, we anchored a little below the buoy, and the night-tide got into the Kedgerie road.

The 28th, at noon, weighed, wind fresh at S.S.W.; drove down with an easy sail to Cowcolly; here is a buoy laid belonging to the Dutch; laid near the extremity of the flat of the shore with the following bearings:—

Kedgerie point N. to E. ½ E.
Uppermost Bamboo Bush W. ½ S.

in about 18 or 19 feet at low water, from hence this same tide we boarded down in sight of the buoy of the broken ground, and then bore up to lay a buoy at Ingilli, with the following bearings, the—

Bamboo Bush, N. E. ¾ E.
Ingilli trees, N.N.W. ½ W.

in 4½ fathoms at low water for a leading buoy.

From the above proceedings I have found no sensible alterations on the soundings till we came down in the East and West Channel; but before I speak of that it may be proper to say somewhat in favor of the channel aback of Fulta Sand, as the other channels are so very narrow that the eddes reach from the shore right over to the sands; that after half flood, with a strong tide, it is not practicable to get through without a stiff leading wind; therefore it is the pilot's opinion (that were with me) as well as my own, that the Western Channel, coming up with the flood, is much the safest; and that it may be more frequently practised, it may not be impertinent to give the necessary instructions to those who, for want of opportunity for satisfying themselves herein, may still be doubtful.

Being off New Tōwn or thereabout, haul over to the mouth of Jasore River, so as to leave the shore of New Town a little open to the point of the said river to avoid a shoal in the mouth of it, as this brings the next grove of trees below Hog River, on the point opposite the village of Fulta by the time you have Jasore River fairly open; this is a good leading mark till you begin to open Fulta Creek, then haul over towards Fulta to avoid a flat extending from the said point to near mid river; the shoalest water entering the channel is near abreast of the upper point of Jasore River, which is about 20 feet at low water, and that only for a cast or two, and then you fall into 4 or 5 fathoms; the deepest water is to the shore, but you will meet with some overfalls as 4, 5 and 6 fathoms, but not less than 4, until you come to haul over to, the westward; then 3½ and 3 fathoms according as you borrow upon Fulta Sand. After being fully entered this channel and the wind should be in the eastern bank, you may safely borrow upon the Sand as you think convenient.

The alteration in the East and West Channel referred as above, is occasioned by the Merson extending further over to the westward, and likewise somewhat higher up for the bearings of the Thawtmark, where we have laid the Buoy is altered a point of the compass, and the head of the middle ground is shifted near the same in proportion.

After laying the Buoy as above at Ingilli, went into the river where Mr. William Vicarry, Pilot of the *Fort St. George* sloop, came on board and acquainted me that the 20th instant April he anchored at the Buoy of the broken ground, being on his way down to Balasore road; the wind that night from the E.S.E. to S.S.E. blowing very hard; that both him and the Master Attendant were on deck till 12 o'clock, then laid down to sleep, giving the charge to Pallison, who had the watch, to keep a good look-out, and to call him if occasion required; that betwixt 2 and 3 in the morning he was surprised out of his sleep and almost thrown off his cot with a stroke the sloop gave upon the ground. When he got upon deck he found the cable parted unknown to the watch; that she took several heavy strokes and struck off her rudder, which cannot be found since; and as it was about highwater, she beat up near the Sand banks, about 3 miles below the point of Ingilli; that when the water had ebbed from her, he got all the sails and arms and people's provisions from her ashore and made a tent, expecting the next highwater might make her a wreck; and that whilst they were there in this situation a party of Morattoes horse surprised them, when they happened to be dispersed, and plundered their tent of all the arms, cut the sails all to pieces, went on board the sloop, as she was then dry, and plundered and spoiled whatever came to their hands, dangerously wounded one of the Europeans on the arm, and carried the boatswain off to their camp, which was about 4 or 5 miles off from the place, but afterwards sent him back again.

The 29th.—We had the wind so strong at S.S.W. that forced the Calcutta sloop into this river for shelter, having broken the ring of one of their anchors. I ordered them one for the room of it out of the *Mermaid.*

This afternoon I went by land to the *Fort St. George*, taking with me Messrs. Ashton, Smith, Robertson and Vicarry, with all the Europeans belonging to the four sloops under arms; we had about 13 miles walk over the strand from our landing at the lower point, I found her as highting as the spring tides with the surf could lift her, and having made herself a dock about 3 or 4 feet deep on the sands her gripe was twisted all on one side, her scragg much battered, and the sheathing off in several places, but for want of proper materials to remove the sand could not see any further: at this time the low-water mark was near half a mile without her.

The 30th.—Smith, a seaman, and some lascars belonging to the *Fort St. George*, quitted her this morning, alarmed, as they said, by the Morattoes, on which I thought it expedient to know whether their commander was privy to the mischief they had done, and to the end dictated a letter to him and sent it by a messenger to his quarter, but the answer did not reach me till the morning I arrived in town, when it was brought me by one of our choaky boats, and the same morning delivered to His Honour without knowing the contents.

The first of May I called a survey upon the *Fort St. George*, present 3 pilots—Messrs. Ashton, Smith and Robertson, who reported their opinion so near my own sentiments of the matter, that I am doubtful whether, after all the charge and expense in getting her off, she will be worth the money, for she is an old sloop, and must have a thorough repair the next year, had not this accident happened to her; and moreover not one good quality belonging to her; nevertheless, I am of opinion that a trial may be made at a more favourable season when less surf upon the shore, and in the mean while to get her masts, kintlage, and everything out of her in which time better judgment may be formed.

The 2nd in the morning I gave orders to Messrs. Smith and Robertson to proceed into Balasore road with the *Grampurs* and *Hawke* sloops. The *Calcutta* sailed yesterday, pursuant to orders given at town, and my longer stay here could be of no consequence.

I came away in the forenoon and arrived in town the fourth instant.

I am, with the greatest respect,

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN RANSON,
Master Attendant.

CALCUTTA,
The 6th May 1751.

Fort William, 30th May 1751.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. WILLIAM FYTCHE.
JOHN HOLLAND.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.
JAMES BLACKFORD.
WILLIAM WATTS.
THOMAS BURROW.
CHARLES MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BEECHER.

The President laid before the Board a letter which he received from the Nabob demanding Ramkissen Sett to be sent him for having brought down goods without paying the Muxadavad Syre Chowkey Duties.

Ramkissen Sett being sent for was acquainted therewith and declaring that he never brought down any goods without the Hon'ble Company's dustick.

Agreed that the President do write, in answer to the Nabob, that Ramkissen Sett is one of the Company's Dadney Merchants, and is a great debitor of the Company. That they are his enemies who with a show for truth have told this falsely of him in order to ruin him and detriment the Company's affairs, and that he hopes and desires he will consider hereof and favour him so far as to desist from this demand that the Company's investment may not be impeded, and that we through his kindness may remain in their favour, &c.

Ordered, the translate of the Nabob's letter and the President's answer to be entered after this Consultation.

To the Hon'ble ADAM DAWSON, Esq.

I have heard that Ramkissen Sett who lives in Calcutta, has carried goods to that place without paying the Muxidavad Syre Chowkey Duties. I am greatly surprised and imagine he stands in no fear of any body, for which reason I write you and send a Chubdar to bring him, and desire you will be speedy in delivering him over as he may be soon here; be expeditious and act exactly as I have wrote.

MUXIDAVAD,
20th May 1751.

ALLYVERDI CAWN.

To NABOB ALLYVERDI CAWN.

I have received your Perwanna wherein you write that Ramkissen Sett, an inhabitant of Calcutta, has brought into this place goods without paying the Muxidavad Syre Chowkey Duties, and have desired me to deliver him over to the Chubdar you sent on that purpose.

Always there are such strong Chowkeys set that it is not in any body's power to bring the most trifling goods without paying the duties, and the Chowkeys how dare they let any body's goods pass without receiving the customs, it is very well-known that the Company's goods come with their dusticks, and Ramkissen Sett, his father, and grand-father were all the Company's Dadney Merchants, and had business with them; he is a great debtor of the

Company's; it is his enemies who have with a show of truth told you this falsity of him with a view of ruining him and detrimenting the Company's business which is carried on by Dadney Merchants, and never were any of them sent for; and now if we send any of them, the Company's business will be greatly impeded; therefore I am in hopes and beg you will yourself consider on this affair, and favour me so far as to let the old custom prevail, then the Company's business will not in the least be detrimented, and we through your kindness shall remain in the Company's favor.

ADAM DAWSON.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 30th May 1751.

Fort William, 22nd June 1751.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. WILLIAM FYTCHE.

JOHN HOLLAND.

ROGER DRAKE.

EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

JAMES BLACKFORD.

WILLIAM WATTS.

THOMAS BURROW.

CHARLES MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BEECHER.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the table.

The Consultations of the 20th and 21st being wrote fair, was now read, approved, and signed.

By the *Dragon* we received the following letters from the Hon'ble Thomas Saunders, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council at Fort St. David, the one bearing date the 21st May, advising that the gentlemen at Tellicherry have wrote them their prospect is so good that if their superiors at Bombay approve of it, they would dispense with a ship from that side, that they have not heard anything from Bombay on this subject. That they observe the *Dragon* is ordered to be despatched from hence to Europe, but to touch there for advices, in which case if the 800 bales are not sufficient, they will be able to fill her up there, and as the Hon'ble Company has directed those ships that have been longest abroad should be despatched home first, they depend upon our sending the *Brittannia* to them as early as possible to be despatched from thence with a full lading in September for Europe, and desire us to put on Board the *Charterparty* tonnage of red wood and saltpetre, which will very much contribute to her early despatch from thence.

The other, dated the 30th May, advising of their having sent us the full amount of the *Dragon's* treasure in Arcot rupees, as per invoice and bill of lading enclosed; that since writing the foregoing letter, the gentlemen at Tillicherry have advised them of their having received orders from their superiors to buy no pepper, except under 90 rupees per candy, which being impracticable, has obliged them to desist from making any further purchases of that article; therefore, unless they should receive contradictory orders from Bombay, they will not have the quantity they before wrote them to put on board any ships that might be sent from that side. That as the disturbances in the country still subsist, the only manner left them to prevent the French from overrunning it, is the collecting so large a force as possible. They have been induced, it being apparently so for the Hon'ble Company's interest, to detain the 22 recruits designed us by the *Dragon*, as they shall also what more may be sent out for this place, which they have been the readier engaged to, as they shall have so many opportunities of sending them to us as soon as they can possibly spare them.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

THE WORSHIPFUL EDWARD EYLES, ESQ.

MESSRS. WILLIAM FYTCHE.

ROGER DRAKE.

EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

JAMES BLACKFORD.

WILLIAM WATTS.

THOMAS BURROW.

CHARLES MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BEECHER.

Mr. William Mackett acquaints the Board that two days ago he heard Mr. Bodley say in the Registrar's office, in the presence of Messrs. Baldrick, Goddard Irwin and Western, that he knew the sum of Rs. 2,000 Arcot was paid by Mr. Orme on account of getting the administration from the Mayor's Court of Captain Lloyd's estate and effects. Mr. Irwin being sent for, says that he heard Mr. Bodley say that Mr. Jackson employed him as an attorney to get him the administration of Captain Lloyd's effects; that he accordingly applied to the then Mayor, Robert Massey, Esq., who told him that there were three or four bidders for that administration; and that he would not relinquish it without an equivalent, or words to that purpose, judging his share would come to about Rs. 2,000; and that Mr. Bodley declared he himself did not, directly or indirectly, receive the Rs. 2,000, and only received Rs. 300 from the executors on account of outcrys he made for Captain Lloyd deceased in his lifetime.

Mr. Weston being sent for, says that he was in the Court and not in his office when the gentlemen were discoursing there about this affair; but a day or two before, he heard Mr. Bodley say, that he was sorry this affair was made for the sake of the memory of Mr. Jackson.

Mr. Goddard being sent for, says that about two or three days ago, as they were talking of this affair in the Registrar's appartment, that he heard Mr. Bodley talk a good deal on this subject, but does not remember the particulars, and judges from the whole he said, he knows a good deal of this matter. Being asked if he heard Mr. Bodley acknowledge the receipt of this Rs. 2,000, or absolutely deny it, replied that he cannot, and therefore will not charge him with it; and as to the conversation in the Registrar's office, he remembers no more of it.

Mr. Baldrick being sent for, says that, in discoursing in the Registrar's office about the Rs. 2,000, Messrs. Bodley and Goddard were talking about it, and as to further particulars he did not take any further notice than hearing Mr. Bodley say that he received Rs. 300 for services done, on which he looked into the account and found that sum charged therein.

Mr. Frankland acquaints the Board that on Saturday last he was at Mr. Bodley's house, when Mr. Bodley told him that he heard his name was mentioned in the general letter in regard to a bribe given, to which he replied that his name was not mentioned, but that there was notice taken of Rs. 2,000 Arcot given as a bribe to some members of the Court, upon which he said he would tell him the whole affair in substance as follows: That he was at time employed by Mr. Orme as his attorney, who told him he was desirous of getting the administration of Captain Lloyd's estate, for Mr. Jackson was afraid if it should fall into the hands of the Mayor's Court that his sister would be a sufferer; that he there promised Mr. Orme all assistance in his power, and went to Mr. Massey about it. That Mr. Massey told him he had calculated what his share of the profits of the estate would amount to, which would be Rs. 2,000, and as he looked upon this as his right, he did not choose to relinquish the administration.

That then Mr. Bodley waited on Mr. Jackson, and in the presence of Mr. Orme told him what had passed at Mr. Massey's, and on considering of this affair they agreed that it would be for the advantage of the Mrs. Lloyd to pay this Rs. 2,000, which was accordingly given to Massey, and that Mr. Bodley declared that he did not partake of any part of this money.

Mr. Bodley being sent for, says that he was employed in his capacity as an attorney by the late John Jackson, Esq. deceased to apply for and obtain the administration of Captain Lloyd's estate which Mr. Jackson desired him to use his endeavours to get, as he had a regard for the family and proposed no advantage to himself by either taking the commission or interest; but, on the other hand, wanted to make the most of the estate for those concerned which he apprehended would suffer greatly in the point of the commission and interest, should the administration fall into other hands, or even be taken by the Court; that in compliance with Mr. Jackson's request he drew up a petition and waited with it as usual on the Mayor, Robert Massey, Esq., with whom falling into discourse about Mr. Jackson's intentions and the reasons there were to induce him, the Mayor, to grant Mr. Jackson the administration, Mr. Massey replied there were several competitors for it; among the rest some of the members of the Court, naming Messrs. Goddard and Young, who were resolved to have it in their own hands, and that for his coming into the same measures, he was to have about Rs. 2,000 for his share of commission, interest and advantages that should be made thereon. That therefore if Mr. Bodley could induce him to relinquish so handsome a sum which was a perquisite, he should then esteem him a better lawyer than he had hitherto done, and concluding his discourse with telling him the administrations should be granted where it was most for his own interest to grant it. That this he represented to Mr. Jackson who, complaining of the hardship, said what must be done in this affair ? That the estate is likely to suffer greatly, or to that effect, that Mr. Bodley believes afterwards Rs. 2,000 were given to Mr. Massey, there being a charge of that sum as lent Mr. Omre in the account delivered into Court by Mr. Jackson as administrator.

Being asked if knew by whom, or how this money was paid, replied he believed it was paid by Mr. Jackson, by the means of his banian or his writer.

Fort William, 5th August 1751.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

THE WORSHIPFUL EDWARD EYLES, ESQ.

MESSRS. ROGER DRAKE.

EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

JAMES BLACKFORD.

WILLIAM WATTS.

CHARLES MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BEECHER.

MAJOR HOLLAND, *absent.*

MR. BURROW, *indisposed.*

Yesterday we received a letter from the gentlemen at Cossimbuzar, dated the 30th July, acknowledging the receipt of the 15 chests of treasure, and advising that Hookumbeg has sent to acquaint them that our Phirmaund being granted us by a former king is now of no validity, and must be renewed, otherwise we must pay the duties as other nations do.

That they do not imagine that the Nabob yet knows of this demand, but should Hookumbeg put him in mind thereof, they fear the Nabob by his instigation may make it a pretence to exact a large sum of money from the Company; and as they apprehend the business will be stopped unless Hookumbeg is satisfied, that the mentioning such an affair as this to the Nabob will be attended with very bad consequences, they request our directions how to act therein; that they likewise apprehend Kissendeb will insist on being paid the money they are indebted to him out of the money above mentioned, or else detain the goods they have prized for the Hon'ble Company's ship *Dragon*, in which case they desire our orders, whether they are to comply with his demand that the goods may be down in time.

Fort William, 12th August 1751.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, Esq., *President.*
MESSRS. JOHN HOLLAND.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.
JAMES BLACKFORD.
WILLIAM WATTS.
THOMAS BURROW.
CHARLES MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BEECHER.

In obedience to our Hon'ble Masters concerning the organ we sent for the Reverend Mr. Bellamy,[a] who declared that when Mr. Frankland applied to him for it, that he told him that it was not in his power to give it, but wished it was removed from thence, as Mr. Pearson informed him it was eat up by the white ants, and the church might be endangered by keeping it there; he further added that in the gallery where it stood the marks of the white ants are to be seen to this day.

Mr. Frankland being called before us, avouched the truth of what Mr. Bellamy said, and declared that being desirous of taking the dimensions of the several parts of that organ, in order to complete one he was trying to have made at that time, was the reason of his applying to Messrs. Bellamy and Wynch[b] to let him remove it, those parts of which there might still remain sufficient to take the dimensions; but on Mr. Bellamy's telling him it was out of his power to give it, he sent his carpenter to the church to take the dimensions, when on their touching any part thereof, it immediately fell to pieces; the white ants having left nothing but the outside. That all that remained of the organ were a few broken metal pipes and some of the ornamental parts, with the glass doors, which were not entirely destroyed as they were made of teak, and declares that, so far from having an organ, shortly after that on finding he could not accomplish one, he laid aside all thoughts of it, till a gentleman who came from England near three years after offered to assist him in finishing it.

Mr. Pearson being called upon, declared that being some time before desired by Mr. Hatsy to see if he could repair the organ, he found it in such a condition that he was surprised it held together, for that the white ants had destroyed it, and there were only a few metal pipes left which were jumbled together and broken, and that in his judgment the whole machine was entirely useless and of no value, and that it was highly necessary it should be removed out of the church.[c]

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*
MESSRS. JOHN HOLLAND.
ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.
JAMES BLACKFORD.
WILLIAM WATTS.
THOMAS BURROW.
CHARLES MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BEECHER.

The merchants being called before us in regard to the Ormora goods and Soosies informed us that the Raja at Ormora is dead, and his two brothers were quarrelling who should succeed him, and that the mother of the deceased Raja were to put another person into the Government, on which account they cannot venture to send any money thither to provide goods, as they are afraid their Gomastahs will be plundered of it, but in relation to the Soosies they are willing to provide them, but cannot lower the prices of last year.

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[a] The Reverend Gervas Bellamy arrived as Chaplain, 22nd August 1726. Perished in the Black Hole 1756.

[b] The Reverend Robert Wynch transferred from Fort St. George to be Junior Chaplain at Fort William in 1743; he died 1747.

[c] The Reverend J. Long adds a note to this Consultation to say—"This organ had been presented by Mr. Eyre; the inhabitants subsequently purchased by subscription a very fine organ which they presented to the church."

Fort William, the 19th August 1751.

To the first of Merchants.

My Friend Mr. Dawson—

I have heard from Houghley sometime past news that Mr. Acton and Mr. Mills both English under the protection of the Germans, are coming with three ships of war that hoist German colours from the franks country to Houghley, and design to lay in the road to stop this river and sieze the Mussulmen ships on this account. I have already sent perwannahs to you and the other European nations, which by this time must be arrived with you, since which I have received your answer back by which I find my intelligence is true; but what you write that the Company have ordered you not to make war in these parts with any European nation is very wrong, for in time past, in Sujah Caun's time, the English and Dutch chiefs both entered into methods for destroying the German chief and engaged him to join with you, on which account the German Chief absconded; now you will write me so different a story it is not right or reasonable. If the Germans come here, it will be very bad for all the European, but for you the worst of all, and you will afterwards repent it, and I shall be obliged to stop all your trade and business, and shall get an order from the King for so doing; it will be proper for you now to consider of your trade from Patna and Bengal how, if these troubles happen, you are to carry it on; therefore, take care that these German ships do not come into the road, or stop the way; do you act in such a way and such a manner as to punish them before they arrive in the road.

In doing this, you and the other European nations, will deserve my favour: this be assured of. I shall take care to be near you as I am coming to hunt about Culwah. The 29th of the Ramzan.

The Fourth year of the King Omed Shaw.

To the Nawab.

You advise me of having received my address, and you lay your commands on me to take such steps before the arrival of the Allemans so as to prevent their coming.

Whatever injunctions you are pleased to lay upon us, it is without doubt our duty to observe, and have accordingly given orders to our pilots, who go in the road to bring in our ships, not to take charge of any of theirs, or show them the way on any account, and do not doubt but that the Dutch and French have done the same. God forbid that they should come this way, but if that should be the case, I am in hope that through your uprightness they will be either sunk broke or destroyed, and under which the Company's business will always flourish.

A. DAWSON.

19th August 1751.

Fort William, 20th August 1751.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ROGER DRAKE.
JOHN HOLLAND.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.
JAMES BLACKFORD.
WILLIAM WATTS.
THOMAS BURROW.
CHARLES MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BEECHER.

Major Holland begs leave to observe that it is his opinion the Hon'ble Company in the 78th paragraph of their Commands for the *Hardwicke* expressly order that the post of third in Council shall be filled by their military officer, and that they thereby mean third in Council of their Settlement of Fort William, consequently, therefore, as Mr. Fytche is gone Chief to Cossimbuzar, he thinks it is his right to sit as second of this Board during Mr. Fytche's absence.

The President thereon asked the opinion of the Board.

When Mr. Beecher's opinion was that the Major ought to sit as third on the spot.

Mr. Manningham was of the same opinion, as it seems to him contrary and incompatible with the general tenour of the Hon'ble Company's orders.

Mr. Burrow says he does not understand the paragraph by the *Hardwicke* in the same light as Major Holland does, but looks on it to be an answer to Mr. Fytche's application on the arrival of the *Walpole,* and begs leave to refer to the Consultation of the 20th July 1749, and to his opinion therein set forth, and thinks the Hon'ble Company as yet have not given an answer to the present question which stands referred to them by the Ship *Lapwing's* letter, and therefore it is his opinion that the Major should sit third till an answer to the *Lapwing's* letter arrives.

Mr. Watts was of the same opinion as Mr. Manningham.

Mr. Blackford was of opinion that as on the arrival of Major Mossman he was appointed in Council under Mr. Pattle, and as the same has been referred to the Hon'ble Company, of which they have not thought proper to disapprove, he concludes that it must be their intention that the Major should sit as the third in the Council residing at Fort William, whether the gentleman appointed to succeed to the chair be present or not.

Mr. Cruttenden is of the same opinion as Mr. Burrow.

Mr. Drake is of the same opinion as Mr. Manningham.

The President is of the same opinion as he gave the 30th July 1750.

The majority of the Board being of opinion that he should remain as third, he took his seat accordingly, and Mr. Drake took his seat as second, and the posts were now settled as follows:—

Mr. Drake to remain Export warehouse-keeper.
" Cruttenden to remain Import warehouse-keeper.
" Blackford to take charge of the general books.
" Watts appointed Buxey.
" Burrow appointed Zemindar.
" Manningham appointed Store-keeper.
" Beecher appointed Collector of the Consulage,

14.

Fort William, 26th August 1751.

To—The HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, Esq., President and Governor of Fort William, &c., Council.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—As I at present labour under a very great hardship by the order of the Hon'ble Company for sending me home as a deserter from the ship I was in without having obtained leave from the Captain for quitting her, I beg leave humbly to represent to Your Honour, &c., that I apprehend my case has been mistaken or greatly misrepresented to the Hon'ble Company, and therefore humbly request Your Honour, &c., will be pleased to favour me with a suspension of the executing the Hon'ble Company's orders concerning me till you can hear from them again, and that Your Honour, &c., will be pleased in compassion to an unfortunate man, exposed to the loss of his subsistence, to inform the Hon'ble Company in your next general letter the truth of which I hope is not out of Your Honour, &c., Company's memory, and which is, that I did not run away from my ship and afterwards get an employ at Dacca, but upon information of the death of Mr. Lightfoot, and Mr. Clerembault applying for a successor, Your Honour, &c., were pleased to look out for one, and I had the happiness to be recommended by Mr. George Gray, the Hon'ble Company's Head Surgeon, on which esteeming it a piece of great good fortune and much preferable to the many hardships and dangers I had undergone for eleven years in the Hon'ble Company's service in their shipping, I immediately acquainted Captain Tiddeman with it, requesting his permission to quit the ship for the Hon'ble Company's service.

This permission he readily gave me in a letter addressed to the Hon'ble the Governor, and upon delivering this letter I was immediately appointed by Your Honour, &c., Council as the Surgeon of Dacca.

I humbly beg leave to appeal to Your Honour for the truth of Captain Tiddeman's sending this letter, as also to Thomas Burrow, Esq., for the truth of his having applied to Your Honour, at my request, for the said letter to which application, to my great misfortune, Your Honour was pleased to inform him that it was mislaid.

I humbly hope Your Honour, &c., will be pleased compassionately to take my hard case into consideration, and also to suspend the executing the Hon'ble Company's order concerning me till they have had full information of the truth from Your Honour, &c., Council's letter.

I am with the utmost respect,
Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,
Your most obedient, humble servant,

GEO. ALEXANDRE.

DACCA,
The 19th August 1751.

Fort William, 2nd September 1751.

From—Nabob Alliverdi Cawn,
To—The Hon'ble Adam Dawson, Esq.

I am informed by your address, as also by other people, that Mr. Mills and Mr. Acton, Englishmen, with three men-of-war under Alliman's colours, have left Europe to come to Houghley and design, when they arrive in the road, to stop the river and seize all the Musselmans' ships, to correct which I have wrote you, the French, and Dutch, which by this is arrived, and you without doubt have prepared for so doing; these peoples coming is very prejudicial to you Europeans and likewise a discredit to you. I imagine you are not sensible, this may prejudice you, therefore you may perhaps be backward in exerting yourselves to correct them, for which reason I now send Coja Warris Alli to explain matters to you, as likewise to the other Europeans, and desire you will listen and obey what he says, and do as he would have you, for your driving away these people will at present and hereafter be advantageous to you, and desire you will write me what preparations and schemes you have hit upon to effect it, and when you receive any fresh news about them advise me immediately.

From—Nabob Alliverdi Cawn,
To—The Hon'ble Adam Dawson, Esq.

I have received two of your addresses, and you write that you have given strict orders to all your pilots who go into the road to bring in merchant ships, on no account to take charge of, or show the way to, any Alliman one; and you likewise write that God forbid they should come this way to seek their own deaths, and you will sink and destroy those ships. I am extremely well pleased with this scheme of yours, and you have done very well in giving such strict orders to your pilots as they may not find the way in. I am of opinion they will not come into this country, and should they come, that you will correct them, therefore I desire you will remain well on your guard that they do not by any means get in.

Fort William, 6th September 1751.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ROGER DRAKE.

EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.

JAMES BLACKFORD.

WILLIAM WATTS.

THOMAS BURROW.

CHARLES MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BEECHER.

The 3rd instant we received a letter from the Worshipful William Fytche, Esq., Chief, &c., Council of Cossimbuzar, dated the 31st ultimo, advising the deficiency of four rupees (Rs. 4) in the treasure lately sent thither. That the Nabob's forces at Plassey has seized on Sargeant Adrian d'Livero and his party, having under their care two Englishmen who deserted from Ballasore about 18 months ago and entered into the Nabob's service. That the Chief has wrote several letters to procure their release, and they will advise us of the success thereof in their next. That their Vacqeel, who is at the Nabob's Camp at Culwal, has acquainted the Chief of the Nabob's having stopped a boat with an English dustick, on the peon's acquainting him the goods were not English but belonged to a black merchant at Calcutta. That they apprehended, unless this affair is cleared up to the Nabob's satisfaction, it will be the cause of no regard being paid to the Hon'ble Company's dustick, and therefore they request that we will use our endeavours towards it.

Fort William, 24th October 1751.

To THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ.

SIR,—I have several times before wrote you about the money deposited account Deepchund's affairs in Mr. Braydllestone, and you have returned for answer that that you must wait for advices from Europe, which is a thing of no concern to me, for my friendship with the Company is of long standing, and am under no apprehensions about this affair which is the reason of my having remained satisfied hitherto: the Europe ships are arrived, therefore an answer must be come, it is now of long standing so desire it may not be stayed any longer, but that you will send me my money with the interest which, if you do not, I must be obliged to take such measures as I may get it, and desire you will not blame me for so doing. It is now several times I have wrote you about this, as I likewise now do, and your being expeditious in sending me my money it will be better for you.

COJA WAZEED.

Arrived the 23rd October.

To COJA WAZEED.

Your letter about Deepchund's deposit money I have received, and as yet no news in regard to this affair is come; when it does, you may depend upon my advising you.

CALCUTTA,
The 24th October 1751.

DAWSON.

Fort William, 9th November 1751.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.
WILLIAM WATTS.
THOMAS BURROW.
CHARLES MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BEECHER.
PAUL RICHARD PEARKES.

MR. BLACKFORD, *indisposed.*

The poor inhabitants of this town daily crying out to us concerning the great distress and want they labour under, and our merchants and others representing to us it is owing to the dearness of rice and oil.

Agreed that the annual duties levied on those two articles, amounting to near Rs. 500, be forgiven this year; and that the Zemindar do give public notice thereof.

Fort William, 30th November 1751.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.
WILLIAM WATTS.
THOMAS BURROW.
CHARLES MANNINGHAM.
MR. BLACKFORD, *continuing indisposed.*
MESSRS. BEECHER AND PEARKES *out of town.*

The Court of Justices lays before the Board their Proceedings on an information of Mr. J. Ranson against Mr. H. Smith and Warren Hastings which being read.

Ordered them to be entered after this Consultation.

We now sent for Mr. Ranson and acquainted him that if there were any books or papers among those secured by Messrs. Smith and Hastings belonging to him and not relative to our Hon'ble Masters, on sending one of his servants to examine them with the Company's Banian, they should be delivered up to him, to which he replied that he does not choose at this time to take any away.

Being asked if he had any books belonging to himself there, he answered his original private books as well as those of the Company were there.

We again told him he might take them away if, on examining them with the Banians, they were found to be his, to which he again replied he did not choose to take them away at present, as he should act as the law directs.

We now took this affair under consideration, and the behaviour of Mr. Ranson appearing to us highly insolent, and his prosecution of two young gentlemen for felony, who were acting by our orders, being extremely malicious, and his warmth in espousing his Banian giving us great room to suspect at least some collusion.

Agreed to suspend him the service till our Hon'ble Masters' pleasure be known, and as Captain John Pinson is ordered to succeed by our Hon'ble Masters in the 45th paragraph of their Commands, under the date of the 17th June 1748, on the first vacancy he was appointed accordingly.

Ordered Mr. Ranson to deliver over his charge of the Hon'ble Company's Marine to Captain Pinson.

Ordered the Secretary to transmit Captain Pinson a copy of Mr. Ranson's contract with us, to know if he will contract with us on the same terms for the remainder of the year.

And as the time for despatching the ships draws nigh, it would take up too much of our time to examine and scrutinize properly into the Banian's books and papers.

Agreed to appoint Messrs. Beecher and Pearkes as a committee for enquiring into and examining those accounts.

Ordered, public notice to be affixed at our Fort Gates that if any person having employed Santose in the quality of a Banian, has books or papers in his possession, they may by finding a Banian to examine them in the presence of Santose with the Company's Banian have them delivered up.

At an Extraordinary Meeting of His Majesty's Justices.

Captain Johnathan Ranson appeared before us, and informed us on oath that, Messrs. Harry Smith and Warren Hastings broke open a room in the house of his Banian Santose, on which he had a padlock, and from thence took out several books and papers of the deponent's property.

The Bench asked Mr. Ranson if the Banian was present.

He could not tell, but was informed he was.

Ramsuntose being called by Mr. Ranson as a witness, informs us that the gentlemen who, by the Governor in Council's orders, went with him to secure his books and papers saw all his books and papers put into a room, and that on the 26th November, while he was abroad those gentlemen returned to his house and broke open another door of the same room, there being three doors to the room, where the books and papers were lodged and carried them away with them.

Being asked if he had anything further to say.

Replied in the negative.

Being asked whether he had not the Governors and Council's orders to deliver all books of accounts and papers belonging to the Hon'ble Company that were in his possession, whether he did not consent to deliver them accordingly.

That agreeable to the direction of the Board, he did not agree to deliver up his own papers.

Being asked what papers the Governor and Council asked him for.

His own papers.

Being asked if the room which those gentlemen broke into was locked, and by whom.

Replied that those gentlemen had put a padlock on that room.

Being asked if there was not another lock put on that room afterwards, and by whom.

Answered that there was another lock put on whilst he was abroad, but found on enquiring, when he came home, it was put on by Mr. Ranson's order.

Being asked since he had only the Governor and Council's orders for delivering up the Company, how came he to deliver up the books and papers, the property of others.

Answered.—He had no Company's books and papers, from whence could he get them.

Being asked if on the 21st November, the day on which the Governor and Council called him before them, he did not tell them he had the books of accounts of the Company at home, and separate from all others.

Answered.—He did not remember he gave such an answer.

Being asked how many years he had been in the service, whether he did not answer 6 years, but he had only 5 years' accounts and papers.

Answered that he did tell them that the Banksaul or dock head papers for 1746 were burnt, but that he had the rest in his possession.

Being asked if he did not deliver the room where the accounts were lodged to those gentlemen.

Answered.—No, he did not, but his servants opened the door, and the gentlemen locked it up after putting the papers in.

Ramchund Tagoor being called as another witness by Mr. Ranson, informs us on oath that two writers went to Santose's house, and finding another padtock on the door which was shut, enquired who put it on. They were answered by the Company's Pyke who was there, by Mrs. Ranson's servant; that then they took a stick out of the Pyke's hand, and endeavoured to open that door; but finding they could not do it, they then went to another door, broke it open, and brought the books away.

Bridjoomohun, another witness, declares on oath the same as Ramchund Tagoor.

Underam, another witness, declares on oath to the same effect.

Bistumdass, another witness, declares on oath to the same effect.

William Woolhead, upon oath on Tuesday, the 26th November, between the hours of eleven and twelve, he was informed that two of the Company's servants were gone to Santose's house to fetch away Mr. Ranson's papers, from thence that he was going to Santose's house, and met Warren Hastings and Harry Smyth, the two of the Company's servants just come out of the house with a great parcel of papers and books, part in their palanquens and some in hands of coolies; that he asked Mr. Hastings what he was doing, he answered that he was fetching away the books. That he then asked him by whose authority. He answered by order of the Governor and Council. That he then asked him to show his orders. He replied he could not show them, but that he had seen it wrote in the Consultations.

Being asked who told him they were Mr. Ranson's books.

Answered.—He heard the news from sundry peons.

Being asked whether they told him they were Mr. Ranson's, Santose's or the Company's books.

Answered.—They were gone to bring Mr. Ranson's books from Santose's house.

Being asked in what capacity he served at present.

Answered.—As Mr. Ranson's Book-keeper.

Being asked whether he knew if Mr. Ranson had any books at Santose's house.

Answered.—No.

Being asked if he keeps the Company's dock head accounts, and from whom he receives them—Santose?

Answered.—Yes; he takes the account monthly from the Banian, or his servant.

Being asked if he knows of Mr. Ranson's having any other dock head accounts than that which he takes from his Banian.

Answered.—No; he knows of none.

Being asked if he knew or heard why those gentlemen were obliged to break open the door and bring away papers.

Answered—He neither knew or heard.

Being asked whether he knew if Mrs. Ranson sent to put another key upon the door.

Answered—Yes, she did.

Being asked whether he knows or heard whether the people she sent were opposed in putting on the lock.

Answered—No.

Being asked if he heard or did not that any other door was broke open besides that where the papers were put in.

Answered—No; he did not.

Being asked whether he heard the door was broke open after Mrs. Ranson had put the padlock on, or before.

Answered—Afterwards.

Mr. Ranson being asked if he has any more, or anything further to say, or any more witnesses.

Answered—No.

Messrs. Smyth and Hastings being called before us, declare that in consequence of their orders from the Governor and Council to secure Santose's papers, they went with Santose to his house, and received from him and his servants those papers and books which they locked up in a room and set chowkeys thereon; that sometime afterwards having heard that Mrs. Ranson had put another padlock on the door, they repaired thither, and not finding the peons there, whom they left as chowkeys, they broke open another door of the same room, and brought away the papers, in order to secure them, and deposited them in the Secretary's Office, where they now are.

It appearing to us to be a malicious prosecution, and that Messrs. Hastings and Smyth were in possession of this room and had a lock and key on before they broke it open; and that the books and papers were delivered to them by Santose and his servants for the Company's use; and it likewise appearing to us that those gentlemen had no other intention by entering of said room than to receive the Company's books and papers: We are therefore of opinion that they have acted according to the orders given them and in consequence of their duty; and therefore they do hereby stand acquitted of any illegal act in this affair.

Fort William, 9th December 1751.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ADAM DAWSON, ESQ., *President.*

MESSRS. ROGER DRAKE.
EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.
JAMES BLACKFORD.
WILLIAM WATTS.
THOMAS BURROW.
CHARLES MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BEECHER.
PAUL RICHARD PEARKES.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the table.

The Consultation of the 5th being wrote fair, was now read, approved, and signed.

The 6th instant we received a letter from the Worshipful William Fytch, Esq, Chief, &c., Council at Cossimbuzar, dated the 2nd instant, advising of the arrival of Hossein Noody Caun, the Dacca Nabob at Muxedavad, and of their orders to the Vacqueel to apply to the Nabob for a perwanna to him on his return to Dacca, and to prevent his impeding the Hon'ble Company's business at that factory in future, and put a stop to his unjust proceedings. That their merchants have only brought into their cottah nineteen thousand pieces of gunnahis and gave them hopes but of about fifteen or sixteen thousand more, which will not amount to half the quantity contracted for, their reasons for which they transmitted as under date of the 30th October, since which time they have not been wanting in their endeavours to increase the quantity as much as possible, but they gave them no hopes thereof; that the remaining silk and silk piece goods come in but slowly, of which their merchants promise to deliver in about 570 bales and chests to complete this year's investment; that enclosed is the account current, dated the 30th April 1751, of the disbursement on account Calcutta sugar merchants, the balance whereof being Duss Mass rupees 5,382-10-3 under the head of grain and provisions, which arises from stores laid in for some years past on account of the Morattoes; they desire our orders for writing the loss arising thereon off to profit and loss, having sold the remainder since April last for D. M. Rs. 561.

That in reply to the several paragraphs per the *Hardwicke* they have been unable to get any information whether the Armenians residing under the Hon'ble Company's protection were concerned or not at the Durbar on the complaint lodged on account of the capture of the Armenian ships; that they are of opinion they cannot employ a more proper person at present to give them intelligence of what passes at the Durbar, Shan Kissendeb their vacqueel, he being a man of great interest, or prejudice to the Hon'ble Company's affairs, wherefore they esteem it for their interest not to show distrust of his fidelity; but will not neglect to procure from time to time what other intelligence they possibly can of the designs of the Government that they are concerned to inform us; that they fear the balance due to the Company of Rs. 1,79,211-9-6 from sundry merchants, from the year 1744 to 1747, may be esteemed on the whole almost as bad debts, not more than Rs. 25,657-2-9 having been recovered, on account those balances; and that for the gunnah account, Anno 1745, as upon strict enquiry they find that most of the merchants are either dead or run away from Cossimbuzar, and those who remain are not in a capacity to discharge the several debts, or at least very small parts of them; however they are endeavouring to recover what they possibly can from those merchants who still remain, though they have but little hopes to get in any considerable part of this large debt; none of those merchants being at present employed in the Hon'ble Company's business, but assure us that they will take care the Hon'ble Company do not suffer by their merchants in future.

That they will observe the plan laid down for the management of the business of the Export warehouse as far as the nature of their investment will admit of; that the dearness of raw silk and silk piece goods for some years past they find is owing to the Morattoes constantly entering the Bengal, plundering and burning the people's houses, and destroying the chief aurung, from whence the workmen have fled to distant parts, and not to any malpractice in the gentlemen there; that their Doctor, Mr. William Forth, came out Surgeon of the *Winchelsea*, Anno 1743, and a mate being wanted in the Hospital at the request of Mr. Bradyll and his Council, Captain Baron permitted him to stay for that service, in which he remained four years, when a doctor being wanted there he was sent up, and having behaved well, they beg leave to make favourable mention of him; that on their endeavour to recover from the merchants the balances due to the Company, they find there are some who are willing to pay such part as they are able, but on doing that they desire a clearance from them of their whole debt, alleging that such indulgence would encourage them to discharge as much of their balances as possible, which otherwise will not do even in part, and as several methods have already been taken by the former Chiefs and Council, with some of the most considerable of those merchants to very little purpose; they are of opinion if such indulgence can be granted, it will be the means of recovering some part of this large debt, which they fear will never be done, as otherwise the merchants being too much out of their power, as well as out of the Hon'ble Company's employ, and desire us to send them our Resolutions hereon as soon as possible, as one of their merchants has lately offered to pay them a considerable part of his balances on the above conditions.

To—The Hon'ble Adam Dawson, Esq., *President and Governor, &c., Council of Fort William.*

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,—It is with the utmost concern that I am under this necessity of addressing Your Honour, &c., on a subject of this nature whereby not only myself but others concerned may suffer, and as I am given to understand from common report that Your Honour, &c.'s reasons for your late proceedings are founded upon two most scandalous papers, of neither of which can I have a copy, neither am I made acquainted who are the authors, in order for my defence, I therefore now take the liberty to set my case in the clearest light I possibly can.

As Master Attendant, the Company allowed me a salary to be paid monthly, and also fifty rupees per month for proper servants to act under me in the execution of my office, such as I should think fit to appoint. My predecessor, Captain Henry Watts, was upon the same footing, and that since the latest Regulations, from the reports of the Committee of Shipping, Anno 1743, brought out by Captain Henry Watts himself, I never heard that any President, &c., Council have at any time ordered or appointed any particular banian or other servant to act under me on the Company's account, or on any account whatsoever; but on the contrary the Master Attendant was at liberty to choose his own servants and pay them their wages, and as such, doubtless, is answerable for their conduct.

I further beg leave to take notice to Your Honour, &c., and that I am under no covenants with the Hon'ble Company, but was entrusted by them to execute the office of Master Attendant only, and to furnish such stores for the use of their marine, and under such restrictions as they thought proper to mention in their Instructions, so that in this case I am no more than a tradesman to the Company to supply their marine, with such stores as shall be indented for, and likewise to find timber and plank and all other materials that may be required for such repairs, as shall, from time to time, be wanted for the use of the said marine, both which stores and materials for repairs are bought and purchased with my own money, and not by any cash advanced me by the Company at any time for such uses, or to defray such charges of the said marine; but, on the contrary, I have advanced, and have been always advancing, considerable sums for the Hon'ble Company's service, one month under another, more or less according as the sloops, &c., have required; and Your Honour, &c., cannot but be sensible that I have often supplied considerable sums of money for their service when both their cash and treasury were deficient, purely that their affairs might in no wise suffer by their marine being out of repair, unserviceable, or out of condition, to answer the ends purposed, without any consideration of interest; and I must also observe that I have been obliged to keep a very large stock in trade, which now is an incumbrance to me, in order for my more readily and speedily serving their marine as occasion required, which would not admit of any delay—all which I make no doubt, but when Your Honour, &c., shall please to take the same into consideration, it will manifestly appear that no servant employed by me in the executing the business of supplying the Company's marine can be liable on any pretence whatsoever, or are in any ways answerable to the Company for any act or acts relative thereto. But that all or any charges of misconduct or otherwise committed by them must fall on me, their Master.

And furthermore, as all the stock, both at the Dockyard and my own Banksauls, are my sole property, and in no manner of wise appertaining or belonging to the Hon'ble Company, I humbly presume that all such books that are kept by the Banians, my servants, cannot be deemed any other than books concerning the issuing and selling my said stock in trade at either of the above places; and therefore such books of course belong to me only, and not to the Company. As a coroboration of what I now remonstrate, humbly beg leave to refer to the Company's standing orders with regard to their covenanted servants, where it is expressly said that the Company do not look upon any Banian whatever as answerable to them, but expecting all or any damages that they may suffer by the Banians to be made good by that covenanted servant under whom he shall act, as in the late case of Wadham Brooke, Esq.

And as I humbly conceive, from what has been offered, that my Banian is in no wise liable or answerable the Company but to me, his master and employer, deeming myself alone answerable to them in a fair and legal proceeding, but not, as I conceive, by any extra-judicial means in order for self-conviction, so contrary to the liberty of a British subject and the known laws of the land.

And I further beg leave to take notice to Your Honour, &c., that as Ramsuntose, my Banian, is bound in security to me for my stock in trade, which amounts to a very large sum of money, that by his present confinement and imprisonment it will be deemed he is no longer liable to me, from the day of his arrest by Your Honour, &c.'s orders, for my deficiencies, losses, and embezzlements, and other damages that have already, or may hereafter, occur for want of his due and proper attendance, the discharge of the trust so reposed in him.

As I have now in the most plain and ample manner set forth to Your Honour, the hardships I labour under, by the unjust misrepresentations of bad men, whereby I not only suffer in your regard, but greatly in my fortune, which I now submit to your candour, humbly requesting that the peons and what other arrests may now be on my servant Ramsuntose, may be taken off and be discharged upon proper security given for his appearance at such time as required, and as such, I now tender myself, and am with the greatest respect,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,
Your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN RANSON.

Calcutta,
9th December 1751.

589 F D
Exd.—J. W. DeB.

To

THE HONOURABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS
for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants
of England trading to the East Indies.

HONOURABLE.

1. By the *Norfolk* your honours were advised of the Situation of Affairs of the Country Government when Mahomed Ally was in Trichenopoly supported by our Troops, Chunda Saib in Pondicherry, Mustapha Jing had been Slain in Battle on the other side Arcot, and Nizam Ally a younger Brother to Nazir Jing was substituted in his Stead, who soon after gave up the Command of the Army to his Elder Brother Sidoo Mahomed Cawn or Salabat Jing, they continued their march with their Allies the French (who had been reported most of them to have been slain but we since have learn'd only 60 lost their Lives) to Golcondah without any thing particular occuring. On their Departure from hence their Allies refused accompanying them any further unless they were paid four Lacks of Rupees, in this they were gratified and receiving a supply of Warlike stores from Metchlepatam Escorted by a few Europeans and some Seapoys, they proceeded to Arungabad, where by our last account they now are, meeting with no oposition. Nazir Jing's Mother and Wife upon hearing of his murder————engage the Morattas in their Interest,————accordingly a large Body————settled Affairs with Salabat Jing but afterwards receiving Advice that the Guzzerats under the Command of Dammajee, a Ghenim[1], had entered his Country, he cut off the Governour of Arungabad, extorted fifteen Lack of Rupees, and returned to his own Country.

2. It is said the Mogul received the News of the Murder of Nazir Jing with Destestation, and immediately appointed Gauzedee Cawn, his Second Visier and next Brother to Nazir Jing to the Decon Country; who We hear march'd some stages from Delly, but then deputed Salabat Jing to Act as his Deputy. By the best accounts we can get it appears that several of the Omrahs and Chief Officers are greatly disgusted, the Country in Confusion; since the Revolution in this Province no Forces have been sent from thence, nor do We hear of any Coming this way;

3. We have received from Muhammad Ally copy of a Phirmaund from the Mogull appointing him to the Government of the Carnatick Country, and of a letter from Gauzedee Cawn on that subject, on this occasion we expressed our satisfaction by a Salute of Cannon, the French have given out the same in regard to Chunda Saib, he continued in Pondicherry 'till the middle of march when having Enlisted Troops he marched out and beseig'd Chettaput which place was taken by Treachery. Auny another Fort was his next Conquest, and the Phousdar of Veloor, a Government of Consequence seeing him thus successful accommodated matters with him. From thence he marched to Arcot————the 23rd January are pleas'd to approve upon first News of Chunda Saib's leaving Pondicherry, We detach'd a Body of four hundred men under the Command of Captain D. Gingins who encamp'd at Trevendaporum about six miles Distance, and then mov'd to Trevady. At the same time we wrote the Nabob to join Us, it was agreed with his Vackeel and afterwards confirm'd by him, that all extraordinary charges whilst our men were abroad should be defray'd by him, the Place of Rendezvous was appointed at Volunda about seventy miles to the West of us. Our Troops march'd and having taken Verdachellum a small Fort in their way, where they left a Serjeant and thirty men, they joined the Nabob's Army at Volunda, the Recruits you were pleas'd to send Us greatly enabled us to reinforce our Army; in regular European Infantry we were much superiour to the French, the Nabob's forces were not indeed equal to those of Chunda Saib, but we had beyond Dispute an agreeable propest of success, and wrote Captain Gingins upon no account to let slip so favourable an oppertunity but come to an Engagement: the Governor of the Fort was summoned, he declar'd himself a Friend to Mahomud Ally, but refus'd to join us or admit us into his Garrison; By

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[1] Ghenim, properly Ghanim, an enemy, a freebooter.

Letters intercepted it appear'd he was our Enemy, an attack was made by setting fire to the Subburbs in the Night, in the Morning he was summon'd to surrender, but about ten a Clock The French & Chunda Saib had the address in sight of our Army to relieve them by throwing in some European and Cannon; though their Camp was at a great Distance an Action of a very short Continuance ensued, when We retreated———It is said the Nabob's People behaved———the just commendation of our———not being supported, were obliged to quit them after our Army had retreated some Distance, this unlucky affair gave spirits to our Enemy and at the same time much discouraged our Allies, our Loss was inconsiderable, Ensign Harper and seven or eight men, that of our adversary is said to be greater, some of the Nabob's people wheel'd of, and Captain Gingins thought it adviseable to decamp that night leaving some Shells and other Baggage behind, after a march of 20 miles nearer Trichinopoly he occupyed the Post of the Wootalore, a Place by the Nature of its Situation among the Rocks reputed strong, the Enemy animated by their late success soon moved towards us and encamp'd about the Distance of five miles, our officers reconoitring a party that had advanced near, went too far, when Lieutenant Maskelyne who is since returned here upon Parole, was taken Prisoner with some of our Seapoys and two or three Troopers, a few days afterwards they made a regular attack on our advanced Guard, which was Captain Daltons———and said to be defended bravely, the Reception they met with being too warm induced them to return with considerable Loss, ours was trifling, still conquering, still retreating, the Army decamp'd from Wootalore that Night, leaving part of their Baggage and encamp'd on the Banks of the Callderoon. The River was sweld by the Rains so as to render it unfordable and with help of Boats our Army pass'd, it and afterwards the——— another River which runs near to the walls of Trichinopoly—they now are Captain———apprehension of the Communication being cut off were the Reasons for taking this step, the Enemy immediately possess'd the Post we relinquished, about two thousand Seapoys are at Siringam a Place three or four Miles from our Camp, the main Body on the Bank of the Callderoon, Not being able yet to pass these successive Retreats and the near approach of the Enemy has greatly intimidated the Nabob, whose Fortune, Family and Government are at Stake, has made his Friends cool in his Cause and keeps in awe many that wou'd otherwise embrace his Party. We have a Mortgage Bond from Mahomud Ally dated 15th July 1750 for Trichenopoly & its Districts; on the strength of which we have hoisted our Colours there and protested against Monsr Dupleix & Council for any Hostilities he has or may commit against us in this Country, it is allowed to be a Fort of great Strength and easily defended, We have abroad above nine hundred Regular Troops, the French not six hundred, two hundred of which are Seamen, it is agreed that three or four hundred will defend Trichenopoly, with the remainder joined to the Nabob's Horse, We purpose agreeable to the Nabob's desire making a Diversion in the Arcot Country, and raising Contributions for him which he is much in need of, and we hope it will have the desired Effect.

4. The begining of February Mr Charles Hopkins was appointed to proceed on the *Swallow* to Diu Island to support our Rights thereto, as well as to demand our Factory at———landed there the 20th of that month——— Monr DeLassell who with——his Reasons for so doing, made him Prisoner and oblig'd him to strike the Colours; after which he was carried under a Guard to Metchlepatam, from whence he had leave to proceed to Maddapollam but was deny'd by Monsr Friell, Chief there, The taking possession of our Factory. We had protested before against any Violence they might make use of to the Prejudice of this your right, in Reply to which Monsr Dupliex & Council were pleas'd to tell us they should order our Factory to be given Us till their Superiours Pleasure was known, and that they were ready to receive any Protests, We might Send them in Regard to Diu Island, as they judg'd it their Right by Virtue of a Grant from Mustapha Jing. We are informed they are building fortifications both here and at Metchlepatam; Upon advice of the Treatment to Mr Charles Hopkins, a Second Remonstrance was sent to Mons Dupliex &ca, to the material Part of which We have received no Reply.

5. We before advis'd your Honours that they had taken possession of Narsipore where they are now Carrying on an Investment, they pretend to an

exclusive Right to the River and demand a Custom of 3 ⅌ c^{t} from Europeans and 5 from all others importing there, as by our Phirmaund from the Mogul We have the Liberty of carrying on our Trade in all our Settlements free of Custom, We look upon this as an illegal proceeding which We shall never submit to ;

6. On a detachment we sent to Mahomud Ally marching through the Tanjore country our officers———protest from Mon^{r} . * * * * * * * * any Hostilities he might there commit. They accordingly pull'd down our Colours, which were there by the Consent of the King of Tanjore, who assur'd us he never made over or had they any Right to that Country, We have now acquainted M^{r} Dupliex, &^{ca}, with our just Right to Trichenopoly, but as he is not govern'd by those Laws that are held sacred by all Nations, We suppose he will pay no regard thereto, Our foreign Correspondence will immediately point out to you what has passed between us, for which we have not in regard to any particular had a just satisfaction ;

7. The Dutch continue in their former State of inactivity, and don't shew the least Resentment though the Ruin of their Trade is equally struck at with ours ;—

8. We have laid before your Honours a true state of what has occurr'd in regard to the Country Government, and the French, their Scheme is beyond dispute to have Settlements, possess themselves of any Countrys they think convenient, and ruin our Trade. Should our Army be successfull and Chunda Saib and his son or whole Family be slain, they still would find a Rebel and a Pretence to suit their purposes, The frequent successes they have met with, has established their Reputation here, and will probably be a strong Inducement to be supported from home, the Weakness of the Moors is now known, and tis certain any European Nation resolved to war on them with a tolerable Force may over-run their whole Country, The strength of the French on the Coast when——–——calculated at near two thousand men————whether you can afford to keep a Force equal to theirs in India, or can get this Affair accomodated at Home; if the latter, We must remark that their possessing of Places that surround our Limits shews a design to annoy us as the pretending to levy Customs in such Places where we have Factories and Phirmaunds that exempt us from any Dutys is illegal and aims at our Ruin,

9. We have before acquainted you that we are in an alliance with the King of Tanjore who had given us a grant for Devacota till your Pleasure should be known, only a Command has been kept there for its Defence, as you are pleas'd to approve of keeping this Place, We shall send a Covenanted Servant to reside there, and as Seally, a Country adjacent, affords a good Sortment of Cloth shall order him to procure what he can.

10. The pretended King of Tanjore was by M^{r}. Floyer, &^{c}, granted an Allowance of Three hundred Rupees ⅌ month, which we think adviseable to continue, till we can accomodate his Affairs in such a manner as may as littl possible reflect on us ;

11. Hodjee Addee being esteem'd a Person that might be of particular Service, a handsome Allowance was given him : he has greatly deceived us and behav'd ill, as he is acquainted with our Affairs, we don't think it prudent to dismiss him at present but shall take the first favourable opportunity of discharging him.

12. St. Thome appears to us a place of great consequence, its * * * * * * * * Land Customs, Investment, and private Trade, and be an Assylum for our Military who would frequently desert, what pretensions the Portuguese can have to it We cannot perceive, it has been under the Moors for many years, they have not had any Government, levyed Customs, nor hoisted Colours there, but such as the Ecclesiasticks made use of to decorate their Festivals : they may with equal Right lay claim to their Several Settlements, which have by Right of Conquest long been the Property of others. Upon Intelligence we received that such an Affair was in agitation, an Officer and Sixty Men were ordered there and some additions made to a large Building to prevent any Surprize, this has produced a Letter and afterwards a Protest, as enter'd in our Foreign Correspondence from

the Baron De Vellaroys who is deputed from the Viceroy of Goa as a Governour of St Thome and now at Pondicherry concerting Measures with Monsr Dupliex, he is pleas'd to tell us We should have orders by our Ships to deliver it up the King his Master, which orders We have acquainted him, We shall obey whenever they arrive, but till such Time, shall look upon it as a Place belonging to His Britannick Majesty. It does not seem probable that the Portuguese themselves will offer by force to oppose us, but rather the Country Government will be made use of As you are pleas'd to approve of our keeping it we shall support our Rights thereto.

13. We wait your pleasure concerning the confiscated houses at Madrass, the French Portuguese Padrees and ——— and of particular; Diservice ——— to the Support of French trade, and in war they have been the channel for conveying Advice * * * * * *

* We humbly beg leave to offer that if their Houses be sold and the produce given them, We conceive it will be no injustice, The Portuguese Church is a very remarkable Nuisance and We think ought by no means to be returned we cannot be tax'd with want of a due regard to Religion in this Respect because there are many Churches near Madrass that will answer the purpose equally as well, and We Judge it quite necessary that no French, Portuguese Padree, or Armenian be suffer'd to live in the White Town, this can be of no Inconvenience as they may be allowed the same protection and Liberty of Trade, and have leave to build at a proper distance from the Fort.

14. After our hopes of his Recovery we are sorry to acquaint you with the Death of Mr Robins, the 29th Ult. His Judgement Assiduity, and Disinterestedness in the Management of Affairs under his Direction renders the Loss of him inexpressible as his agreeable Conduct in private Life makes him generally lamented, when He found himself in a dangerous way, he wrote your Honours the address that comes in the Packet and one to us, Copy of which you will also receive and We shall strictly adhere to. Mr Brohier had always the Management of the works when Mr Robins was present, and when at Bengal, the entire Direction of them, in which he always Acquitted himself well as he is particularly recommended by Mr Robins to have——————put the Works entirely under his Management. By this ship he writes you very fully in regard thereto and We beg leave particularly to recommend him to your Favour as a Capable honest Servant, he is at present a Lieutenant in the Artillery and 'tis his choice to be preferred in this Way, Mr. Call is a youth, We have often heard him speake of as the most promising, and of a Genius for his Profession, He presents you with a Map of Fort St. David, and We hope will merit your Favour, the rest of the young Gentlemen We imagine it was your Intention shall be employ'd in this Branch, but as the keeping a General Table for them is expensive we shall make a proper allowance for their Diet, as We imagine your Honours will send out another Engineer. We sincerely hope he may be as capable and as agreeable a man as Mr. Robins.

15. It is with great concern We have occasion to advice you of the mutinous behaviour of our Officers, that you may have a true knowledge of it, 'tis necessary to acquaint you that when our Troops first went abroad in the Service of the Government they had a large Gratification but after We had received the Grants for Trevendaporum and St. Thome, a Regulation was made by Major Lawrence of giving them double pay to support their extraordinary Expenses, on this footing were our Troops at Trevady, on this footing our Detachments to Trichenopoly and Tanjore, the last Command was also in Camp two months on this Establishment, when the President received the remonstrance No. 1 ——————the Gentlemen seemed satisfied but in——————possitive and mutinous Terms as greatly surprized Us when We first entered into an Alliance with the Nabob, it was with difficulty we prevailed on him to allow this Charge, the Loss of his Government has distressed him greatly for money, and yet his Generosity has been conspicuous, and we can aver that their's not an officer but has gained very handsomely since they have been abroad. This Affair appear'd to us of very bad consequence, your Regulations direct that at the Tryal of all officers, two Captains shall be present, but as this is a paper signed by the whole Body We are under a necessity of deviating from them, among the many bad Customs introduced by the King's Troops, it is one that when 3 or 4 pitch

upon an Affair of this Nature, the Rest are drawn into it by Threats, that upon refusal they shall not rank with them, this is the case at present, many of those who have signed those Papers were quite averse to it, We shall therefore Single out two or three of the most notorious and send them home in September. We hope you will please to support us in this as we are to assure you that we judg'd it absolutely necessary, and that not any one of us have the least Pique or prejudice against any of them but on the contrary they have constantly associated with us and been used with the greatest complaisance. You were please'd to direct M^{r} Robins should sit in Council on Military Affairs ——concurr'd with us on the proceeding.—

16. We have already wrote —— of men to compleat our ———— of a turbulent restless disposition instead of answering the purpose will be of infinite disservice.

17. In a private Letter the President has just now received from M^{r} Dorrill, Chief of Tellichery, He advises the French are pursuing the same Measures on the Malabar Coast as they are on this, having fomented some differences between the king of Colastria and a Nephew of his whose part they have taken, and his Country which is so Contiguous to Tellichery as two or three miles, they purpose erecting a Fortification. M^{r} Dorrill writes before these Disturbances arose he had hopes of a large crop of Pepper, but as they increase daily, He is apprehensive of falling short in his Expectations.

We are,

FORT S^{T} DAVID,
HONOURABLE.

6th August 1751.
Your faithful hum. Servants.

THOMAS SAUNDERS.
RICHARD STARKE.
CHARLES BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
GEORGE PIGOT.
ALEX^{R} WYNCH.

Postscript.—Since closing the separate Address We have received an answer to our Protest sent Mons^{r} Dupliex, &^{ca}, Council, —— grievous affront they pretend to have received is in regard to a————which we told them we could not but look upon as spurious, tho' if found otherwise We should shew our Resentment; but as We had already suffer'd by things of this Nature, they must excuse our being overcredulous. In regard to a Nabob not having power to mortgage any of his Districts 'tis a thing practis'd frequently when they are call'd upon for the Revenue, and we shall remind those gentlemen of the affront offer'd our Colours at Cumbaconnum on pretence of its being mortgaged to them tho' at the same time the King of Tanjore absolutely deny'd it, as to either Chunda Saib's appointment to the Government, or Mons^{r} Dupliex being honourd with the Power they mention, We hear nothing of it but from Pondicherry and look upon it as an Invention of their own, by this Letter We are convinc'd they will not be restrain'd by any Laws but endeavour to carry their Point at all Events which We shall obstruct as much as possible.

We are,

FORT S^{T} DAVID,
HONOURABLE.

15th August 1751.
Your faithful hum^{l} Servants.

THOMAS SAUNDERS.
RICHARD STARKE.
CHARLES BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
GEORGE PIGOT.
ALEX^{B} WYNCH.

To

THE HONOURABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS,
for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants
of England trading to the East Indies.

HONOURABLE.

The Narrative of Affairs relating to the French and Country Government ℘ *Swallow* concluded with informing your Honours of our intentions to assist Nabob Mahomud Allee Cawn in making a Diverson in the Arcot Country, by this means to draw of the Enemy from Trichenopoly, We accordingly put it in Execution, a Detachment of one hundred and thirty men under the Command of Captain Robert Clive embark'd the 22nd Ultmo on board the *Wager* for Fort St George where being reinforced with Eighty Europeans they marched to Arcot and beyond expectation enter'd it and took possession of the Fort without opposition, the Circar and Mahomud Ally Cawn's Colours were hoisted and the Inhabitants not molested on any shape but secur'd as to their property. Captain Clive advises us of his having had several skirmishes with the Enemy attended with Success, but his force being small and with no horse to pursue, They generally terminated with very little advantage. The Nabob has appointed his several———— but nothing of consequence can be ———— sent one hundred and thirty men to Fort St George under Command of Lieutenant Innes as we were inform'd that Chunda Saib's Son with two thousand Horse, some French and Seapoys, were gone from Gingey towards Arcot.

By advices from Trichenopoly Chunda Saib's Army after passing the Callderoon attack'd Coilady a small Mudd Fort not serviceable, our men were oblig'd to abandon it, but not without a considerable Loss to the Enemy, who are now forming their passage over the Cavaree, a River between them and Trichenopoly—tis thought they have neither force nor stores for a Seige, but that they intend to blockade it, there is eight Months Provision in the place, the Rains are setting in and Chunda Saib distress'd for money to pay his Army; should he be able to surmount these difficultys there is nothing left for Mahomud Ally but to make the best terms he can—as ours and the Nabob's Force are not able to face them in the field—The greatest disadvantages we have and to labour under is the indolence & the apprehensions the Nabob is continually under from the French and his want of money, the last We are in hopes of removing by being able to collect some of the Revenues belonging to Arcot, the King of Tanjore remains neuter, and that of Misore has sent a Force who are now near Trichenopoly ready to join the Nabob, should Chunda Saib prove successfull both these Country's.

* * * * * * *

Examining it was found to be wrote in two different hands and agreed to be a Spurious one. We were confirmed in this by a confession from the Hircar who acknowledged that he came from Pondicherry and was sent by Monsr: Dupliex, who upon his telling him that he had recd no Letters or orders in regard to the English and refusing to come obliged him to it, another of the same Nature, was sent to Madras, the Contents are to deliver up the Jaquiers of St. Thome, Poonamalee and Trevendaporum which we had unlawfully possessd.

We have received no advices concerning the French in Salabat Jing's Camp at Arungabad but it is the General Opinion that not a man will return;

* * * * * * *

FORT St DAVID,
30th Sept. 1751.

To

THE HONOURABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS,
for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants
of England trading to the East Indies.

* * * * * * *

Affairs have taken a much more favourable turn since we last wrote you, our Detachment with the Nabob's people at Arcot were beseiged from the 24th

September to the 14th November by the French and Chunda Saib's son not being more than a months Provision, We were oblig'd to send Captain Kilpatrick with a Command to their relief, but before he arriv'd the Enemy had made two large Breaches and attempted to storm the Fort were beat off with a very considerable Loss, the next day Captain Kilpatrick appearing and at the same time two thousand (2,000) Morattas horse, they raised the seige and decamp'd leaving their Cannon. On the 3d Decr Captain Clive with the Morattas engag'd then in the Field near Arny, a place about twenty miles on this side Arcot, where they were routed, many killed and made Prisoners, they took the advantage of the night and each shifted for himself, their next rendesvouze was at Chittaput about twenty miles nearer Pondicherry where they have gather'd their scatter'd Troops again, taken the Field and are near Covelong; it said the their design is against St Thomé but judged they are not in a condition to do it, Capt Kilpatrick with a Command of Two hundred and thirty ——————— at Arcot, and Captain Campbell with one hundred——————————and five hundred (500) Sepoys is encamp'd———this diverson in the Arcot——— design in drawing ———— the Nabob will shortly be able to do and by the Success that has attended it has raised our Reputation with the natives before sunk but too low;

At Trichenopoly the Enemy had been busy in getting a large quantity of Warlike Stores and Cannon, their approches are very little advanced since our last, their Camp indeed is much stronger secured, several have been the skirmishes in which we have generally been successfull for particularly in one when a Captain Lieutenant, Quartermaster and twenty-one (21) Troopers were killed, they are now busy in entrenching themselves. As the Nabob has been joined by the King of Mysore, three thousand Morattas (3,000), and the King of Tanjore expected to declare for him. These circumstances make their situation appear as gloomy as ours favourable, what we have to apprehend is their being reinforced, or the buying of the Nabob's Allies. We have therefore thought it extreamly necessary to press an engagement as soon as possible, the enemy are greatly harassed by the Morattas Horse, and if we prove successfull in this, their loss must be so very considerable, that if our Supplies from Europe bear a proportion to theirs, we may be able in future to prevent their Schemes from taking effect,—

The French continue in possession of Metchlepatam, Diu Island, which they are fortifying as well as raising two small batteries at the entrance of Madapollam———Natives to the northward are greatly alarmed and———of them the Grants on which they———Metchlepatam.

Diu Island and many other places were given most of them by Mustapha Jing who never was legally invested with the Deccan Government. At present We have not force, but if we prove successfull here shall then support our Claim to Diu Island;—

We wrote the Gentlemen in Bengal that if their affairs would admit of its Two hundred men would be greatly serviceable to ours, by the last advice, from thence. We may expect them shortly ;—

We have laid before your Honours the most material occurrences since our last Dispatch, and if our Conduct meet with your approbation tis our highest ambition. By the *Warwick* we shall tender our usual address.

With the greatest Respect,
We are,
HONOURABLE
Your faithful humble Servants,
THOMAS SAUNDERS.
RICHARD STARKE.
CHARLES BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
GEORGE PIGOT.
ALEXR WYNCH.

FORT ST. DAVID,
25th January 1752.

ꝑ His Majesty's Sloop *Swallow*, Dup. ꝑ *Admiral Vernon*, Trip. ꝑ *Bombay Castle.*

To

THE HONOURABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS,
for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

HONOURABLE.

1. The last time We addressed your Honours on this Head was under date the 24th February, We shall now reassume the Subject.

2. Though we have attempted by many different ways We could never get a Letter Conveyed to Salabat Jing, nor have we recd. any that we believe came directly from him, what have been brought us have been generally from Pondichery, the best accounts we can collect from Aurungabad are that Gauzede Cawn (whether thro' Jealousy or that he disapproves of the steps taken by his brother or perceives the French are under a specious pretence endeavouring to possess themselves of the Province) is not inclinable to favour the French or the present schemes, Salabat Jing was for some time embarrassed in a War with the Morattas, this terminated in a peace, the latter being engaged—— in their own country, he afterwards returned to Aurungabad—— perswasions of the French set out for——his Duan our greatest Enemy and consequently in the Interest of our Neighbours was killed in a dispute that arose with him and the leading Men, Salabat Jing We hear is since arrived at Golconda.

3. *Mr. Dupliex perceiving Chunda Saib's Affairs upon the decline* wrote strenuously for assistance, the French Subadar with a body of Horse and about sixty Europeans with Officers were detached but in their march stopped by the Cuddapah and Condanore Nabobs, only two officers with their Baggage are arrived at Pullicat.—

4. Notwithstanding the Interest the French had in Salabat Jings Divan their application and Endeavours to ruin our Factory, to the Northward, their schemes have proved abortive, We have suffered nothing more considerable than before advised you, Jaffer Ally Cawn return'd to the Rajahmundrum Government, who at first declared he had fresh orders to demolish our Settlements, but since writes to Mr. Westcott that he had orders to restore us to our former privileges and this is confirmed by a Letter the President has received from him in Answer to one wrote demanding the Reasons for the Affronts offered us, and ordering an Account of the damages We had received to be laid before him, We have received from this Nabob several marks of Friendship.

5. The French are still in possession of Narsipore, Metchlepatam and Diu Island, in the two latter they are carrying on their Fortifications.

6. Our Narrative of the Affairs of this province concluded with informing you that the Enemy were endeavouring to cause a diversion by harrasing us in our own Districts which was not then in our power to prevent, that we had received a Reinforcement from Bengal, and had sent Captain Clive to Madras on his arrival with what Forces we could muster he took the Field and found the Enemy strongly encamped at Vendalore, a place about 15 miles distant from thence, in the Night they decamped and took the rout of Arcot pursued by the Nabobs —— Coveripauk about seven miles off this had —— intention being to surprize Arcot, here an Engagement ensured fatal to the Enemy, most of their European Force being killed or taken prisoners with the Loss of their Cannon and Baggage; a lucky event this, as it cleared us from their Incursions here and gave us an opportunity to pursue the grand point. Captain Gingins having wrote us with the addition of this Force he shoud be able to defeat the Enemy, We therefore immediately ordered *Captain Clive* to march, he took St David in his way, and whilst he was replacing his Military Stores arrived Ship *Durrington*, Major Lawrence at his request had the Command given him, he set out for Trichenopoly the 18th March, met with nothing to impede him 'till within a small distance of the enemy, they march'd out but were obliged to retreat and the Major joined the Army under the Walls of Trichenopoly, a good distressed for provisions, possibly somewhat disappointed. Chunda and his Allies early in the morning

left their Entrenchment and made a handsome retreat without Loss of a man Cannon or Baggage to Syringam Pagoda situated on an Island and supported by several Out posts in their possession, it took some time to drive them from these when a Blockade ensued, Monsieur D'Auteuil with a strong escort of money and Warlike Stores was obliged to retreat to Utatore and being dislodged from thence, to Polconda when *Captain Clive* with the Nabob's Forces engaged and defeated him, the place surrender'd by which they became Masters of the Stores and Ammunition, the defeat of this escort drove them to great Streights in Syringam where every thing grew scarce, Chunda Saib apprehending the place would be taken meditated means of escape, it is said he received encouragement from the Tanjore General, he left the place accompanyed by a very few, as he passed by the Centrys, he was Challeng'd, examin'd, and soon distinguished, they conducted him to the Tanjore General where he remained all that night, the next day a dispute arose between the———Allies who should have him and not———ordered his head to be struck off which was afterwards exposed in the Camp. The French say this General had wrote to Chunda Saib, promised him to facilitate his Escape and that no violence should be offer'd him. The Nabob knowing the place drove to great extremity summon'd it, several Letters passed, the Honours of War were demanded on one side and rejected on the other, at length it surrender'd to him, the only request Monsieur Law made was, that the officers and Voluntiers should return to Pondicherry, but fearing the ill treatment of the Soldiers at Trichenopoly requested that they might remain Prisoners at St. David and Madrass obliging himself to make good all that might desert on the Road. Chunda Saib destroy'd, the Enemy's Troops either gone over to the Nabob, killed or Prisoners, gave us great hopes that we should have been able to have given you the happy News of the Province being settled, but fresh difficultys arise and Clouds intercept that agreeable prospect. The Nabob not able to support the expenses of the War contracted an Alliance with the King of Mysore who brought with him the Morattoes and supplyed him with Money, what agreement passed between them was still now not known, M^r^ Lawrence's orders were in case of Victory to march with the whole Force, after providing for the Security of Trichenopoly and Tanjore, to Gingy. The Mysore and Morattoes refused to join him 'till the Engagement the Nabob had entered into was fullfilled which was no less than to deliver to the Mysore King the Fort of Trichenopoly and that country, several days past in endeavouring to reconcile this affair but to no other purpose, than the Mysore King declaring if the English would guarantee it to be delivered to him after the Nabob was settled in his Government he should be satisfied, this Affair gives us great uneasiness, the Nabob acknowledges he has no right to give away so great a district, We are in Alliance with the Circar to protect not despoil it of the Revenues nor can we with any decency appear in it, on the other hand the Mysore———Nabob's sole support should———the Marattas espose ———embarrassed if not ruin'd, at the same time Mr. Dupleix is not idle, but studys to foment this division and turn it to his own advantage, the President has wrote a Letter to the Mysore King desiring he would drop this dispute for the present and join the Army assuring him of his Friendship and intention to settle every thing agreeably, this We hope will have the desired effect. We shall close this long paragraph with assuring you that our greatest attention and study will be to accomodate this unlucky difference.

7. Monsieur Dupleix elated with his last year's success against Nazir Jung and conscious of the pompous Accounts he has spread at home as well as abroad of the whole Coast being within his Grasp, you will no doubt suppose is greatly chagrind at this turn of affairs, the storm is up, he quarrells with his Relations, arraigns his Officers, M^r^ Law is under confinement, and we are on all occasions pester'd with the Depositions of the Officers, these Depositions as they relate to the transactions of the Campaign have been forwarded to M^r^ Lawrence desiring he will Answer them and send us Copys of the Several Letters that have passed between him and the French Officers in general that We may be able to reply, after we had heard of Chunda Saib's being taken Mons^r^ D'Auteuil's defeat, and that Syringham was on the point of surrender M^r^ Dupleix honour'd us with a Letter setting forth he had that moment received one from Salabat Jing empowering him to restore peace to the province not doubting of our concurrence and as a Basis for preliminarys purposed the Nabob

should have Trichenopoly. We have great reason to doubt his peaceable intentions and rather conclude 'tis to gain time and concert measures for War.

Our reply was that we should gladly contribute to it & write the Nabob, he has since favoured us with————address demanding the prisoners and———— enter into no accomodation with the Nabob until they are delivered up.

* this is a point we can by no means concede to, they are not ours but the Nabobs, nor would they have been in our Settlement but at the earnest request of Mons^{r} Law who made himself responsible even for any deserters, and they were to be considered as the Nabobs, the above is a relation of what has passed and our situation at present.

8. The Expences of the War, the Calamitys it has produced, a stagnation of Trade and a continual uneasy Situation makes peace desirable if it could be settled upon a firm foundation, add to this that the actions of these people are guided by no Laws, their principles so bad that no Confidence is to be put in them, and that even already they have learnt so much of the art of War, and so many Warlike Stores Scatter'd in the country as may in time annoy us.

9. As a Basis for this peace We must insist on the Nabob's enjoying his Government in every respect to the full extent as formerly, our Allies the Kings of Tanjore and Mysore must be included, the French must quit those places they have possessed themselves of, that annoy us, the Nabob may gratify them with others if he pleases, the prisoners to be released on condition not serve more against the Nabob, these are not unreasonable demands and such as possibly if the Nabob's Army comes into this province and the French receive no great reinforcement from Europe they may agree to but otherwise we doubt it.

10. Should a peace be concluded the French will then have an opportunity of employing their Troops in the other parts, Metchlepatam and Diu Island will immediately————their care, and Tellichery will be reinforced, notwithstanding the Nabob's success has been beyond expectation yet Affairs remain very unsettled and are liable to very great change. We therefore humbly offer————opinion that you will please to continue sending———— Recruits as the Ship————possibly accomodates.

11. We have not yet put you to any Expence of presents nor shall We ever do it if to be avoided, nor shall the Troop of Horse be Continued an hour longer than the Troubles render it necessary to be.

12. We have taken this opportunity to lay before you a state of the most material Affairs, knowing that the Account of our situation ꝑ *Swallow* cannot be very pleasing and that these may be acceptable, it only remains to assure you that our constant study and attention will be to promote the success of your Affairs, being with the greatest respect :—

HONOURABLE,

FORT S^{T}. GEORGE,

The 5th July 1752.

Your faithfull hum^{b} Servants.

THO^{S}. SAUNDERS.

RIC^{D} STARKE.

WILL^{M} KINNEER.

HENRY POWNEY.

A^{R} WYNCH.

THOMAS COOKE.

JOHN SMITH.

Viâ Bussorah *of* Brill, Dup, *viâ* Bengal per Mary, Trip ℘ *Admiral Vernon.*

To

THE HON'BLE THE COURT OF
Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants
of England trading to the East Indies.

1. * * * * * *

2. Nana has sent a Vackeel here as well as to Bombay, desiring we would continue to assist Nabob Mahomud Ally, and send Troops to join Gauzedee Cawn, We have before mentioned the uncertainty of Letters from hence, Salabat Jing's Army lying between us renders the sending a small Force from this side impracticable, besides that the Expence attending it must be very great. The best expedient we could think on was to furnish Mr. Bourchier with the necessary Instructions in regard to our Affairs here, and to request he would send a Detachment from thence, as it might be more easily effected, having the country of a Friend to march through, and being much nearer, The Particulars are entered in our private Correspondence. We beg leave to observe to your Honours that on the success of one or the other of these Princes depends greatly that of the Nabob and his enemies in this Province. The French have, as much as their Affairs would admit, reinforced their Detachment with Salabat Jing, the great advantages of a Train and small Force of Europeans have in several Instances been very Evident, Gauzede Cawn's Army is greatly superiour in number but has no European Train, should they come to an accomodation Salabat Jing will certainly support the Interest of his Allies: these are the difficultys we apprehend and shall endeavour to remove.

3. The Difference between the Nabob and King of Mysore is not yet accomodated, The latter sent his Vackeel to us desiring we would be Guarantee and sign the agreement of the Nabob for the delivery of Trichinopoly which being done he would continue to assist him with Forces and Money, the former declared that he had not a power to give away so large a Province of his Dominions, which must be his ruin——he was—compelled him to —— to come from Salabat Jing desiring us to assist Nabob Mahomed Ally, and advising us that he had no Authority to give, nor the other to demand Trichinopoly, the same has been wrote to the King of Mysore ordering him to desist, as we found this an intricate Affair, it was judged most prudent not to concern ourselves in it: we therefore wrote the King of Mysore that we were Merchants, Allies to the Circar and not principals, that we could not pretend to interfere in things of this nature but should be glad could we any ways be Instrumental in reconciling the difference as Mediators, and always maintain a strict Friendship with him, he still persists in his demand, the Nabob beyond doubt made him a promise of it but the other well knew he had no power to do it nor could he expect to enjoy it peaceably. The King of Mysore is inmensely Rich and possessed of large Dominions, The addition of this Province would make him too powerfull, The King of Tanjore whose Country is adjoining would immediately be swallowed up and ruin'd. This unlucky Affair was the occasion of a very great delay in the march of the Army, which had it, more immediately after the taking of Syringham the whole province must have fell to the Nabob, at least there was a probability of it, at length the Forces March'd to Outatore and from thence Volconda leaving the Nabob to follow them after accomodating his Affairs but it being intimated to Major Lawrence the Morattas intended to stop him, the Major returned to Trichinopoly, and after a stay of two days when matters to all appearance being settled, the Nabob and he set out and joined the Army. The Mysorean and Moratta continuing close to the walls of Trichinopoly where a Garrison was left sufficient to defend it; *Trivady* a place about twenty miles from St. David surrender'd immediately to the Nabob, here Major Lawrence being ill requested———Madrass which was granted & the command ———Clarke till Major Kinneer who was————These small intervals proved greatly advantagious to the Enemy, it afforded them time to enlist a number of Seapoys, and the French ships arrived with officers and men, Major Kinneer took the Command and pursued the plan, which was to take Gingee, by which means large part of the Province would be secured to the Nabob. In his way Bellapore was taken, on his arrival at Gingee it had been reinforced and appear'd too strong upon reconnoitring, to undertake the

seige of. The French, by the arrival of their Ships, had now a small Army, which was detach'd to succour Gingee, the Nabob's Army on their return found them strongly encamped at Vickerawaundy and attacked them, though they were greatly inferior in number their situation was so advantagious as obliged the Nabob's Army to desist. Major Kinneer having received a Wound in his Leg, the Loss of the Enemy's side was much greater than ours, the Nabob's Army continued their march uninterrupted and Arrived at Trivady, Major Kinneer's returning into Garrison, Capt. Clarke had the Command till the Arrival of Major Lawrence, who being recovered was appointed to it, The Enemy elated with the late success march'd and encamped at Bawoor on the Edge of our Bounds of St. David, this drew the Nabob's Army from Trivady, who likewise encamped near them which had the desired Effect, they drew off in the night and retreated towards Pondicherry: The Nabob's Army following *'till* they were within their Bounds, several small Skirmishes happened and some Villages were burnt when finding it impracticable to bring them to an Engagement, return'd to Bawoor, the Enemy perceiving the Country has suffered by retreating again advanced in sight of the Nabob's Army, when measures were concerted, they were attacked early in the morning, a general and smart Engagement ensued, Victory was on the side of————three Quarter parts of the Enemy were killed and taken———with the Loss of their cannons, Tents and Baggage————Fort of Covelen, and Chingalaput another Fort belonging to the Circar both taken by the Enemy during Chunda's Rebellion, not appearing any Force at present to obstruct their designs, the Nabob thought it a proper Juncture to reduce them, accordingly *Captain Clive* with some New Recruits and Seapoys Joined his forces and went against *Saudet Bundar,* it made some Resistance till a Batterry was erected when it surrender'd, the Garrison Prisoners to the Nabob. This was luckyly some hours before the Arrival of a Reinforcement from Chingalaput, who not knowing the Place was in the Nabob's hands advanced to relieve it, they were engaged and defeated, part made Prisoners the rest escaped, this was great encouragem^{t}, for the undertaking of Chingalaput part of the Army with two Field pieces were immediatetely detached, and after Garrisoning and providing for the security of Saudet Bundar the remainder followed. Chingalaput is a place not only by situation (being almost encompassed by Morass and only one avenue to it) but by a double Wall of stone and a Ditch, very strong, It required some time to bring up the heavy Cannon without which nothing could be done, a Battery was erected, in a few days a sufficient Breach was made in the outward Wall and afterwards part of the inward, when the place surrender'd upon honourable Terms, the Garrison to march out giving their parole not to serve against the Nabob. The strength of this place was such that had it been properly Garrison'd and furnished with stores and provisions, Nazar Jing's whole army could not have taken it. Several other Forts reduced to the Nabob's Obedience are of great strength, but when so weakly defended those strong Walls are of little signification, the Loss sustained in taking these places and the time has been trifling.

4. During this Expedition that the Enemy might——it was judged necessary that the Grand———might at the same time reduce Vandewash & Chettaput.

which would secure all this part of the Provinces, they accordingly moved from Trivady and set down before Vandewash, the Governour of which place came to a composition for three Lacks of Rupees, The Nabob was extreamly pressing for the taking of Chettaput, which as we were assured was but very weakly Garrison'd, We recommended to Major Lawrence, but he thought proper to decline it and the Army returned to Trivady.

5. We are now to relate to you the part the French and we have borne in these troubles with the several Circumstances attending them; That of the *French, an allie of Chunda Saib, We in alliance with Mahomed Ally;* Chunda Saib never was Nabob of the Province but by order of Mustapha Jing and Salabat Jing; Mahomed Ally had his saned from Nazir Jung, is since confirmed by Gauzede Caun, nay Salabat Jing; as Allies We both acted, Prisoners of our respective Nations were as such. We before inform'd you that Chunda Saib was delivered up to the Tanjore General, his Troops still continued to defend Syringham, and with them his Allies drove to extremity surrender'd.

The Garrison submitted themselves Prisoners to the Nabob, Mons^{r} Law sensible of the Illtreatment the Prisoners must receive from the Moors requested they might remain as Nabob's Prisoners at S^{t} David and Madrass, M^{r} Lawrence agreed to it, for particulars We beg leave to refer you to the Correspondence for M^{r} Lawrence's Deposition and M^{r} Law's letter. M^{r} Lawrence sent these into S$^{t.}$ David, since which M$^{r.}$ Dupleix has demanded them alledging that as the Nations are at peace according to Treaty they cannot be Prisoners under our Colours, our reply was that We had no Prisoners, that by M$^{r.}$ Law's Capitulation and request there were some of———— we were ready to deliver when the Nabob and M$^{r.}$ Law who had entrusted them with us should desire it, esteeming the Act of M$^{r.}$ Law Commanding Officer as valid, not satisfyed with this answer M$^{r.}$ Dupleix————Ships & Boats to————Prisoners a Company ————passports by Boats ot Fort S$^{t.}$ David, whom he still detains. We protested against this open act of Violence and Breach of Treaty, but have been carefull not to return it. The correspondence with the several Depositions on these occasions will sufficiently prove that Both We and they have been respected as Allies not principals, We have strictly kept the paroles, they have frequently broke theirs, officers having appeared in the Field contrary to their agreement, the penalty of which is well known, We interested ourselves in saving them, judging the Act not choice but the Compulsion of M$^{r.}$ Dupleix, The Letters of their officers will sufficiently shew the politeness of ours on all occasions as well as the meanness of their own. The same conduct has been shew'd us whatever Force M$^{r.}$ Dupleix may put on the Death of Chunda Saib, the Troops were Acting as his Allies against Mahomed Ally by whom they were taken, since this We have not interfered, the Nabob disposes of his Prisoners as he pleases and both officers and men vent their Spleen on M$^{r.}$ Dupleix.

6. Wee shall avoid taking Notice of Metchlepatam and Diu Island as both these places are Heads on your Books, and the taking them is an actual Breach of Treaty, what regards the Country Government is the necessary to be laid before you, when our Colours were hoisted at Combookonum no regard was paid to them, they were pulled down. When we informed M$^{r.}$ Dupleix that Trichenopoly was Mortgaged to us and our Colours hoisted, He wrote us they should be no Sanction to us, our Troops and our Troops only, with his Majesty's Colours displayed were Beseiged in Arcot, The French had a Battery with their colours hoisted playing against us, The Mount Houses which is under the district of St. Thome were plundered by the French and Chunda's people and the spoil carried to Pondichery. It will, we believe, appear strange to you as well as to us, that M$^{r.}$ Dupleix after———— Rule for his Conduct, where-ever he————shall immediately call such place his most Christian Majesty's and when the Nabob attacks & takes it protest against us for Breach of Treaty, this is the case in regard to Trivady, Bellapore, Gingee, Chingalaput, and Saudet Bundar. If he really thought so he would have preserved the same Conduct to us from these places; The several Ravage are Committed from Chingalaput and Saudet Bundar, even our Firewood and provisions have been taken, the French Bounds we have always held sacred and taken infinite pains to prevent the Nabob's Troops from injuring them, in short he changes and suits his measures to the circumstances of his Affairs, at one time Chunda's Allie at another Nabob of the country from Cape Commorine to the River Kistnah and now a principal, to this latter We have answer'd that we shall hold inviolably sacred the Treaty subsisting and though provoked to it by the several Acts of Violence he has Committed, not dare to infringe it. But that as we do not conceive this forbids us from cultivating a friendship and Alliance with other parts of the world, we cannot break that with Mahomed Allee Cawn.

7. We are sorry our intentions to promote a peace have not met with the desired effect, the Nabob sent his Vackeel to Mr. Dupleix who was answered very haughtily, that he delivered up his Prisoners he would not treat with him, by which we are convinced that he has no Intentions to conclude one as We know the Terms the Nabob would have given were very advantagious, the French would not have been Suffer's by the Ill success of Chunda Saib, the value of the whole they were in possession of, would have been granted them

which amounts to no less a sum than between five and six Lacks of Rupees a year, but this was rejected.

8. From the foregoing we must inferr that it seems to us certain Mr. Dupleix after refusing such proposals will pursue his scheme, and if we may presume to form a Judgment by what has already ———— keep no Measures with ————doubting whether ———— from his Council, to transact all Affairs, and whether he ever communicated our Letters to them, We directed our addresses jointly to them and put the question but received no Answer, Mr. Dupleix writes us he is the King's Governor, we continue our Letters under direction to the Governor and Council and charge them as responsible jointly and in their respective persons for all Acts of Hostility Committed. We must repeat that Affairs in this Province depend greatly on those at Aurungabad, to support Gauzede Cawn and prevent their entering into an Alliance with him are what we must endeavour at. The Alliances of the Nabob in the Province are precarious, the Mysore King is disgusted greatly at his disappointment of Trichenopoly, the Morattas are in his pay, M^r Dupleix is Negociating with them, his Success as yet uncertain. The French Force including Prisoners and the Detachment with Salabat Jing is about equal to ours, these deducted much inferiour, they are till in expectation of one ship with three hundred Men, and are draughting all the men and Coffreys from the Islands, what supply may be sent from Europe your Honours must be best able to judge, at so critical a juncture We humbly hope you will send us Recruits and Stores, as on it depends the Welfare of your Settlements.

9. We are sorry to say Major Lawrence is dissatisfyed, whatever concerns these Expeditions is the Result of Resolution of Consultation and is Communicated to him in the gentlest terms, in this as well as all other Affairs. We shall be governed by your Orders and a true Regard for your Interest which we hope will merit your approbation.

We are,

HONOURABLE,

Your Faithfull humble Servants,

FORT ST. GEORGE,
3rd November 1752.

THO$^{S.}$ SAUNDERS.

CHARLES BODDAM.

HENRY POWNEY.

ALEXANDER WYNCH.

JOHN SMITH.

℘ *Admiral Vernon*, Dup. ℘ *Bombay Castle*, Trip. ℘ *Chesterfield*.

To

THE HONOURABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS
for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants
of England Trading to the East Indies.

1. * * * * * * *

2. Our last advices concluded with Gauzede Cawn's having obtained a saned for the Decan Country, the Nana coming to join him and his march towards Aurungabad where he was scarcely arrived but poisoned by Salabat Jing's mother, this did not prevent the Nana's continuing his march he encamped near Salabat Jing's Army, a Skirmish ensued when an accomodation succeeded by granting the Morattoes several Provinces before promised him by Gauzede Cawn whose Son We hear is appointed to his Father's Government, and as the several Omras are discontented at the large tract of Country given the Morattoes and the heavy Expence of the French Troops whose

designs they seem to be acquainted with, We think the troubles will still subsist, all means were tryed by the French Officer to prevail on Salabat Jing to march to this Province which occasioned a General murmer amongst the leading Men who dissuaded him from it, We hear he is gone towards Aurungabad, the French then attempted to get a saned *for the Arcot Province,* in this they were unsuccessful also, the Nana having———his affairs march'd this way and by report is on———River Kistnah it is———will either come himself or send one of his officers to settle affairs here, as We have always found the Affairs of the Country. Government so liable to change we cannot have an entire dependance on it, nor can we be certain what steps he will take, a friendly Correspondence has passed and he assures both the Nabob and us of his Friendship.

3. The Mysore King and Morarow have joined the French, the former seems resolved on Trichenopoly where in an Action Seventy of our men and two Officers were killed, the French And Morarow are encamped on the Paniar River about Six miles distant from the Nabob's Army at Trivady, nothing of any great consequence has passed, they are but weak in Europeans but the Nabob is defective in horse and we dont think it prudent to run too great risks as a stroke of ill Fortune at this juncture would be irretrievable, we wish we would give your Honours any hopes that peace would be restored to the Province, of this we see no probability, the contention in Nizam's Family and the Resolution the French have taken to pursue their Scheme are our Reasons, they depend on a large reinforcement from Europe and are Collecting what they can from the Islands and their other settlements. We hope your Honours will comply with our request for Military and Stores as on them depends the safety of your Trade and Settlements.

4. Mess^rs. Taylor and Westgarth write us that the King of Pegue had granted the former Privileges and a Factory at Syrian where they had hoisted his Britannick Majesty's Colours, that he disswaded them from a Settlement at the Negrais alledging the unwholesomeness of its situation, however that they should have it in preference to all other European Nations his Majesty's promise may possibly be only to amuse us. We shall therefore——of the Vessels to Pegue address his Majesty with a present, remonstrate to him the risque of large ships going to Pegue River, desire the Negrais must be granted to us for this purpose, offer to enter into an Alliance with him and do what else may be necessary to the forwarding this Scheme.

5. In our last we mentioned to your Honours that M^r. Lawrence was uneasy, 'twould be taking up too much of your time to repeat here what has passed on this occasion, We must therefore beg leave to refer you to our private Correspondence where the several Facts and Circumstances are related.

6. As the Post of Commander-in-Chief of your Forces in India and that of Major of your Presidency of Fort S^t George are of weight, and as when M^r Lawrence may return to Europe, Gentlemen of different Sentiments may in future be appointed to succeed to it, We with submission request your Honours explanation of some particulars relating thereto. In your Regulations which we regard as the only Rule for our Conduct you are to direct that the Major is to recommend to Vacancys to be approved by the Governour and Council, that no Officer be superseded without just reason for it. The sense of this is we think very plain, but if it should happen that the naming of all officers should have the Construction put upon it to imply the absolute appointing them without reserve, this (tho' we shall never put that Construction on it) may occasion some disputes, it sometimes happens an officer of particular Merit might be an exception but oftener passion, prejudice and private Interest may dictate, and here 'twould be the highest Injustice to supercede an officer who had equal Merit, besides an innovation of this nature would be an inlet to a total subversion of all regulation and we think a great discouragement to the whole Corps.

7. You will please to observe by Major Kinneer's Letter some doubt in regard to his Rank, and this may be carried still further, your Chief and Residents at Subordinate Factorys are in general in Stations below the third in Council, it would be highly unreasonable that an Officer, a perfect stranger to the Affairs of a subordinacy, should put things out of their regular Chan-

nel and take upon him the managment of affairs he knew nothing of, and yet this was hinted at.

8. 'Tis your particular order that the Commander-in-Chief when at the Presidency or the Major shall have a Seat in Council as third and debate on Military Affairs, We are greatly obliged to you for this Assistance in a branch where it cannot be supposed We have any extensive knowledge and shall always embrace it in disciplining the Military, the Stores necessary for it, the manner of attacking places, and the disposition of the men in the Field, are so directly the Province of an officer that it would be madness to interfere in it, but upon weighing the several Circumstances and different Interest of the Governments, surely each Gentleman from his Experience can give his opinion, and it may happen that a Military officer who possibly might not have this Experience shall refuse to follow orders, this would give us infinite uneasiness in a country where officers are not easily replaced.

9 Though it is the Custom in Europe for each officer to receive pay of his whole Company it may be attended with ill Convenience, We have no reason to imagine any thing, now, but all men are not of the same Complexion, It may certainly be said that it admits of an opportunity of abusing the Men, and this cannot so well be when each man receives his pay at the pay Table.

10. It would be of great service if every Subaltern who receives a Captain's Commission contract to serve five years and all officers sent out of Europe the same, this is no more than your Covenanted Servants do. M^r Chabbert came out to Command one of your Swiss Companys, he thinks fit to return, he will make a good Voyage if what is reported is true that his Lieutenant M^r Gaup has agreed to give him a handsome Gratuity for the Company, and yet he has been of no service to your Affairs.

11. Though we shall constantly put your Orders in Execution and take all measures We judge for your interest as well as reject such as We judge detrimental, yet to prevent ill conveniencys we request your Honours will please to be plain as possible in giving us your Sentiments and orders upon these particulars, that every man may clearly know and consequently must do his duty. 'Tis a very Common Remark that the Life of an officer is so habituated always to carry Command that it may sometimes chance not to be Concurrent with Civil Affairs and if care is not taken to prevent it and Government supported in the execution of your Orders, Confusion must be the Consequence, the avoiding of which is the only inducement for our troubling you with the foregoing Paragraphs.

We are,
HONOURABLE,
Your Faithfull humble Servants,

FORT ST. GEORGE,
21st February 1753.

THO^{S} SAUNDERS.
CHAR^{S} BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
A^{R} WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.

℘ *Delawar*, Dup ℘ *Dragon*, Trip. ℘ *Durrington.*

To
THE HONOURABE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS
for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

* * * * *

We shall now proceed to the Affairs of this Continent where the whole Empire seems to be in a Ferment.

12. From Delhi We hear of a Rebellion fomented and headed by the Grand Vizier Munsoor Ally Cawn who formed a Design of dethroning the Emperor Achmud Cawn, Son to Mahomed Cawn, who reigned when Shaw Thomas took Delhi, this plot was discovered to the Emperor by his Buxsey Amadalmulluck just at the Time the Vizier's People were entering the gate of the Citadel, and by this means his Scheme proved abortive. A Conference ensued but terminated without any Accommodation, and the Vizier was degraded from his several Posts in the Government, the next Morning he raised Batteries, and some shott were exchanged, Conferences were again renewed but came to no Conclusion. The Vizier ordered the City to be plundered, the Damage sustained hereby is said to amount to Seven Carouts of Rupees. By this time the Emperor had Collected Forces sufficient to drive him from thence, several Skirmishes ensued afterwards in which success generally fell to the Emperor. These Advices the 22nd Sept^r^ last, & when wrote both sides were making Preparations for War:—

13. The Morattoes pretend a Right of receiving a Chout or Tribute of one-fourth Part of the Revenues. This Right is founded on Power and therefore often contested, when they have a superiour Force they exact more, but sometimes are forced to be contented with less. The intestine Broils that now subsist give too favourable an opportunity to be neglected by these Free Booters who are in most Parts of the Empire ravaging, and raising Contributions. On Gauzede-Cawn's March towards Aurungabad he was accompanied by the Nana who is the Sou Rajah's Chief General, after the death of Gauzede Cawn he had a skirmish with Salabat Jing's Army who came to an Accomodation with him by the Grants of Jagueers to a considerable Amount, He then took the Rout of this Province. We received Letters from him acquainting us he would join Nabob Mohomed Allee and had reason to expect he would, as we were informed from Gov^r^ Bourchier at Bombay he had received several Letters from him to the same Purpose, he came near our Confines but proceeded to the Mysore Country where he committed Hostilities till the King purchased a Peace for 25 Lack of Rupees. We wrote to him by our Vackeel, his Reply was that urgent Affairs pressed a Return to his Country but that we might depend on his coming back after the Moonsoon, thus in 8 months with very little Trouble but marching over a large Tract of Land he has acquired 2 Carouts of Rupees and is we hear safe at Ponnah.

14. Salabat Jing after the Accomodation with the Nana had Leisure to attend to his own Affairs when the measures to be taken were brought on the Carpet, the French used their utmost Efforts to persuade him to march to this Province but the several Omrahs opposed it strenuously and prevailed on him to go to Aurungabad where and in its Neighbourhood he has Continued. Jealousy, the everprevailing Passion of Eastern Princes, has led him to shut up his Brothers Nizam Ally and Sydoo Sheriff in the Fort of Dowlatabad where they remain confined. By what we can learn he has been, and is greatly distressed for money to pay his Army. A circumstance happen'd which promised favorably to the Nabob's Affairs. Sidoo Lascar Cawn, an Omrah of great Repute who had been in Disgrace was restored to favour and had the sole management of his Affairs. This Omrah we are told is well affected to Nabob Mahomed Ally Cawn and greatly disapproved Salabat Jing's Attachment to the French. There seems to us a probability in this Report, as very soon after their Troops were dismissed and came to Hydrobad; but a difference arising between Salabat Jing and the Nana they are since recalled and have been strengthened by several Detachments from Pondicherry, to form these no means have been left untried (as we are informed) to debauch the English and Swiss Prisoners and several of the latter have been prevailed on to enter into the French Service, this seems a little extraordinary as M^r^ Dupleix has repeatedly declared he considered them as Hostages & not as Prisoners. It has been reported Gauzede Cawne's Son had received a saned for the Decan, but the Troubles at Delhy have prevented his march this way.

15. The French are in possession of Metchlepatam, Diu Island, and Narsepore and are endeavouring to get grants for the whole Countries of Chickakull & Rajahmundrum as they have also attempted for this Province where M^r^ Dupliex has introduced Mootas Ally Cawn as Salabat Jing's Gov^r^ in the room of Chunda

Saib, and acts himself by a Patent whereby he says the whole Province has been intrusted to his management.

16. At the Dispatch of the *Godolphin*, Your Honors were advised the Nabob's Army had made an unsuccessful attempt on the Enemy who were entrenched so strong that it was dangerous to offer to attack them. This was succeeded soon by a very Melancholly Affair. Captain John Dalton who had always advised us there was four months store in Trichenopoly, wrote us there was only 15 days and his Garrison, already weakend by the Loss of two Subalterns and near seventy men was more so by a Party of Sepoys who had been detached abroad and having their communication cutt off were unable to return. These circumstances made immediate Releif necessary and Major Lawrence march'd with his whole Force when the Enemy having none to oppose reap'd considerable advantages Trivady whose Defence were not the strongest was left under the Command of Capt^n Chace, his Garrison consisting of about 170 men, the Enemy attempted to make a Lodgement in the adjacent Villages and were repulsed. This success prompted Capt^n Chace with too little Circumspection to Venture a Party of 70 men and 2 Subalterns too great a distance who were all killed or taken Prisoners, the Enemy advanced their works against the Place, the Remainder of the Garrison were under no Command, released the French Prisoners and the Place surrender'd, the officers and men being carried to Pondicherry. Chellumbrum where we had sent a small Detachment to the Phousdar's Assistance fell next into the Enemys hands, and Verdachilam where we had a small force was also taken by them, By which means all that Part of the Country was and continues in the Enemys hands. Captain Sanderson at Arcot contrary to orders, sent a Party so near Velore that they were routed, Lieut. Smith with some of the men being carried Prisoners to that Fort. Major Lawrence took the Rout of Tanjore and paid a Visit to the King who gave him a handsome Reception with Promises to join the Nabob and assist in relieving Trichenopoly, but it was not till after a second Visit that he sent his Forces, several skirmishes have happened in which the Nabob has been successfull and the 21st of last month a General Action with their whole combined Army who were routed, about 70 French killed 100 with 7 Officers taken Prisoners and as many sent wounded to Pondicherry. The Nabob and Pollygars are very delatory in putting the necessary Store into Trichenopoly which as it is an Affair of the utmost consequence, We are obliged to do ourselves. The last Advices of the 14th from Major Lawrence mention, that the Army will winter on the Confines of Tanjore, but this we cannot be certain of, as his must depend upon the Enemy's Motions.

17. The Nabob, by the unsettled State of the Province, unable to collect the Revenues, has not fulfilled his contract with us in defraying the Expences of the Troops (which amounts to near a Lack of Rupees ℘ Month) for some time, though we believe he would do it if his Affairs were settled, Yet we think this an uncertainty and a Burthen too great for us to bear, and if we do not the French will immediately have the Province, His Debt is near twenty Lack, this is a large sum, The Revenues indeed of the Company's new Acquisition amount to near two Lack ℘ Annum.

* * * * * * *

We are,

Fort St. George,
29th October 1753.

Honourable,
Your Faithfull humble Servants.

THOMAS SAUNDERS.
CHARLES BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
ALEX^R WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 928 F. D.—15-2-93—500.

Extracts from Fort St. David Consultations of 1751.

◆

Monday, 19th August.—To the Deputy Governour and Council of Fort St. George directing them to be as expeditious as possible in putting on board the Madeira Wine, to send us the shott and deliver Linga Chitty's people the lead as above agreed on, and advising that a party goes on board under the command of Captain Clive on a design which the President will communicate to the Deputy Governour.

21st October 1751.—The President acquainting the board that the Deputy Governour has desired to have our directions for what supplies it may be necessary to furnish Captain Clive and his detachment with, it's agreed that in our next General Letter to Madras the gentlemen be ordered to supply him with whatever he may indent for, and to carry the amount thereof to account, under the head of Mahomed Ally Cawn.

4th November 1751.—" Letter to Fort St. George acquainting them of the number of men sent with Captain Kilpatrick, and that one boat with Seapoys putting a shore at Allumparra were made prisoners by the French ; recommending the securing the money that has been collected for the Nabob at Tripoty, and the using all possible expedition to relieve Captain Clive at Arcot, directing them to enlist three hundred Seapoys for the security of Poonamalee and St. Thome, to continue to provide materials for their fortifications."

18th November 1751.—No. 144, from the Deputy Governour and Council of Fort St. George, dated the 12th instant, advising the arrival of Captain Kilpatrick there the 30th ultimo, with the detachment under his command, except those made prisoners at Allumparra, and that they had sent Mussoolas to tow up the Chellingas with military stores which were on that side Sadrass.

That concerning the Tripoty money all the precaution possible had been taken for the security of it, but as soon as Captain Clive was blockaded, Bomerauz, one of the most considerable Polligars in that part of the country who was sent to guard it, wrote to the Deputy Governour and Sampetrow that he had received a menacing letter from Chunda Sahib about his assisting Mahomed Ally, and from several expressions plainly discovered his intentions to side with the party likely to be uppermost, which had induced them to send a strong party of Seapoys, with the Bombay Jemmidar to endeavour to bring it away, but as a strong body of Chunda's was posted in the way, and Bomerauz not to be depended on, they thought it too great a risk to attempt; however, Mahomed Ally's agents had found means to remit to Sampetrow, (thirty-two thousand five hundred 32,500) rupees, and (five thousand 5,000) pagodas, and should affairs take the least favourable turn, they flatter themselves, they shall recover the remainder.

Further acquainting us with the Deputy Governour's having received a letter from the Morratta General, who was arrived at Arcot, and had advised him that he had surrounded the town with his army, and stopt provisions of all kinds from going to that of Chunda's, and had intercepted a quantity of ammunition that was carrying thither, that he had desired the party they designed sending to Captain Clive's relief, might join him as soon as possible, when he did not doubt of destroying their whole body, upon which Captain Kilpatrick had been ordered to proceed to Arcot directly.

They also inform us of their appointing Mr. St. Paul to the Secretaryship, Mr. Walsh continuing in an ill state of health, of their strict adherence to our orders for the provision of the bricks and chunam and getting their cloth cur'd, and the observance of such advices as may be forwarded by the President to the Deputy Governour, and enclosing a report from the Warehouse-keeper relating to the sale of the Hon'ble Company's rice remaining on hand.

Government of India Central Printing Office—No. 102 F. D.—26-7-92.—500—[P. B. K.]

Extracts from Letters to Fort St. David from Fort St. George.

No. 144.

To

THE HON'BLE THOMAS SAUNDERS, ESQ.,
President and Governour and Council
at Fort St. David.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,

Our last letter was of the 25th ultimo, since which we have been favour'd with yours of the 4th instant.

Captain Kilpatrick with the detachment under his command excepting those made Prisoners at Allamparva arriv'd here upon the 30th ultimo.

The five Chelingas with Field Cariages and Military Stores being got on the side of Sadrass, We have sent Mussulahs to tow them hither.

With regard to the money collected at Tripoty, the Deputy Governour acquaints us that as soon as Captain Clive march'd with his Detachment to Arcot, Sumpatrauz, the late Nabob's Duan, appointed a person to act for Mahomud Ally at that place in order to secure money collected at the Pagoda; at the same time Bommerauz, one of the most considerable Polygars in that part of the country, sent one thousand Peons under pretence of assisting him, but no sooner was he advis'd of Captain Clive being blockaded than he wrote a letter to the Deputy Governour and another to Sumpatrauz acquainting them that he had received a menacing letter from Chunda Saib about his assisting Mahomud Ally, and by several expressions plainly discovered that he was determind to side with the side that was most likely to be uppermost; upon this the Deputy Governour thought proper to send the Bombay Jemmidar with sixty of his best Seapoys and two hundred Peons to try if they could bring the money away, but a party of Chunda Saib's Horse and Seapoys being posted in the way, and finding that Bommerauz was not to be relyed upon, they thought it would be runing too great a risque to attempt it, however Mahomud Ally's Agent has found means to remit to Sumpatrauz to the value of Rupees (32,500) thirty-two thousand five hundred and Pagadas (5,000) five thousand, which shall be brought to account as Your Honour, &c., has directed, and should Mahomud Ally's affairs take the least favourable turn, we flatter ourselves that we shall be able to get the remainder.

Yesterday the Deputy Governour received a letter from Bajamgrow, Brother of Morarow, the Maratta General, advising that he was arrived at Arcot and had surrounded the town with his Army, and stop'd provisions of all kinds from going to that of Chunda Saib's; that he had taken forty ox and two camel load of ammunition going to their camp; he also desired that the party we intended to send to the relief of Captain Clive might join him as soon as possible, when he makes no doubt of destroying their whole force; upon this Captain Kilpatrick has been ordered to march from Poonamalle with the detachment under his command directly for Arcot.

We shall observe your orders relating to the providing of Bricks and Chunam and curing our cloth for the January despatch, and we shall also duely observe such advices as the President may at any time forward to the Deputy Governour as though they were wrote in a general letter.

Mr. John Walsh by his ill state of Health being really render'd incapable of going through the employ of Secretary, We have agreeable to your permission appointed Mr. St. Paul to succeed him, enjoyning assiduity and secrecy to him as you are pleased to recommend.

The Warehouse-keeper having delivered into Consultation a report relating to the state of the Hon'ble Companies' rice remaining on hand, we have thought proper to inclose the same to you, and are to request your commands thereon.

We remain with great respect,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,

Your most humble and most obedient Servants,

RICHARD PRINCE.
THOMAS COOKE.
JOHN SMITH.
JOHN WALSH.

FORT ST. GEORGE,

The 12th November 1751.

P.S.—Our Mussulah's are returned and we beg to inform you that (110) one hundred and ten of the Cohoon Shells were left in the Chelingas which are returned to you; the Mussulah's could not take them in.

No. 148.

TO

THE HON'BLE THOMAS SAUNDERS, ESQ.,
President and Governour and Council
of Fort St. David.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,

Your favour of the 18th instant we received the 21st, since which we have wrote to you and at the same time forwarded our Consultations for last month together with the usual papers.

In regard to the Tripoty money, we can only say the most of the Polygars have been in the interest of Chunda Saib, so that it was impossible for us to have come at it by forcible means, and therefore have been obliged to rely upon Mahomud Ally's Agent for the management of this affair; if he has deceived Mahomud Ally by appropriating the money to his own use, or suffer'd Chunda Saib's Agents to carry it off, the fault is not ours, and the utmost we can do (in case the remainder of the money should not be remitted us) is to endeavour to get that man here under some specious pretence, and then to oblige him to give an account of his transactions; but if that cannot be done, we shall order the Seapoys to seize him, take charge of what they can find, and fight their way through with it.

We have received from the Deputy Governour such part of the Tripoty money as had been paid him by Sumpatrauz; he also delivers in an account of the several disbursements made by Sumpatrauz for Seapoys' and Peons' Wages and Batty, which we have ordered the Paymaster to discharge. The Deputy Governour likewise informs us that Sumpatrauz has received another Bill for five thousand Rupees, which will be payable in a few days, and that he has advanced out of his own money to the Buzar People that accompani'd Captain Kilpatrick to Arcot sixteen hundred Rupees which the Import Warehouse-keeper is ordered to repay him.

Captain Kilpatrick arriv'd at Arcot the 15th instant, but the day before he got there Chunda Saib's people attempted to storm the fort, but were repuls'd with great loss by Captain Clive, leaving all their Artillery behind them, upon which Captain Clive sent out a party of men under command of Lieutenant Bulkley, who took Timmery Fort. Chunda Saib's son is encamp'd near Vellore, and Captain Clive by a Letter to the Deputy Governour of the 20th instant is march'd out, and has encamp'd himself between him and Arcot, and we expect to hear of some action every hour. The Deputy Governour has also received a letter from Bajamrow, Brother to Morarow, General of the Marattas, wherein he confirms all that Captain Clive mentions as to the situation of the Camps, and of our part we assure Your Honour, &c., we shall use all the endeavours we can possibly to engage the Marattas to Mahomud Ally's interest.

The Export Warehouse-keeper delivers in the account of Rice that is here belonging to the Honourable Company, as does also the Store-keeper the List of Stores supplied the Vizagapatam Bar Boat, both which we enclose for Your Honour and inspection.

The Commissary of Stores has now delivered in the Account of Shells wanting of the Invoice by the *Chelingas*, which is but one hundred and ten, he having received eight hundred and ninety.

Ensign Rockart having been killed lately in the action at Trivitore, the Paymaster and Secretary are ordered to seal up his effects until you are pleased to give us directions relating thereto.

We request Your Honour, &c., will favour us with orders as to the receiving the Rents of the Farms, whether they are to be paid us in Fanams only, or in Fanams and Pagodas as is mention'd in the Cowle.

We are with respect,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,

Your most humble and most obedient Servants,

RICHARD PRINCE.
THOMAS COOKE.
JOHN SMITH.
JOHN WALSH.

FORT ST. GEORGE,

The 26th November 1751.

G. I. C. P. O.—No. 264 F. D.—30-6-92.—500.

[*Public Consultations, 1751, Vol. 79.*]

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

RICHARD PRINCE, ESQ., *Deputy Governor.*

THOMAS COOK.

JOHN SMITH.

JOHN WALSH.

Wednesday, the 20th Novr 1751.

Genl. Letter from the Presidency advise us of the *Brittannia* as having sailed and *Brillant* despatched to the West Coast: some Field Carriages and Stores sent us.

Permit Mr Walsh to resign.

Mr St Paul to succeed him.

A reinforcement sent us under Command of Capt Kilpatric. Some Seapoys made Prisoners by the French.

Order us to use all our endeavours to get in the Tripoty money and to relieve Capt. Clive at Arcot.

To credit Mahomed Ally Caun for all the money we receive from Tripety.

To enlist 300 Seapoys for security of Poonamallee & St Thomé.

To get ready all the Bricks & Chunam we can, also our cloth cured as soon as possible.

The troubles in the Country being very great we are to look upon the President's letters to the Dy. Govr as if wrote by the Board in General.

General Letter from the Presidency of the 4th Inst. acknowledging the receipt of ours of the 30th September and 9th Ultimo advising of our Hon'ble Master's Ship *Brittannia* having sailed the 25th Ult°, and *Brillant* meeting with bad weather returned thither and being since despatched to the West Coast, of having sent us by five Chelingas, two Field Carriages and Military Stores and promising to send us the remainder by the return of the Boats: Permit Mr Walsh to resign his employ of Secretary if his ill state of health will not admit his continuing in it, and in that case appoint Mr St Paul to succeed him enjoining him assiduity and Secrecy. Informs us likewise of the President having advised the Deputy Governor by letter of having sent us a reinforcement of three hundred and fifty Seapoys and fifty Europeans under the Command of Capt Kilpatrick, and that one of the Boats on which the Seapoys came stopping at Allamparroe, the French made them Prisoners, this supply of Men with what came under Command of Lieut. Innis is the utmost the President says they can assist us with, and which they imagine will be sufficient for the purpose in hand. That they have been informed that upwards of two Lacks of Rupees being collected by Mahomed Ally's Agent at Tripoty which they order us to endeavour all we can to secure; that Capt. Clive writes from Arcot that he is blockaded and unable to act and therefore we are to be as expeditious as possible in relieving him as by delaying we shall give time to the Enemy to gather strength. The President &ca. also orders us to credit Mahomed Ally's Acct for all the money which we receive from Tripoty and to debit him for the disbursements. Also to enlist three hundred Seapoys for the security of Poonamallee and St Thomé during these troubles, also to get as much Chunam and Bricks ready as we can as they propose to send Mr Brohier hither as soon as the rainy season is over: likewise to get as much of our cloth cured as possible, that it may be ready for the Europe dispatch in January, and that as the affairs in the Country will not admit of writing us General Letters upon all emergencies, we are ordered to pay the same regard to those from the President to the Deputy Governor as if they were wrote by the Board in general.

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Genl. Letter to the Honble President, &ca., Council in Answer to the foregoing.

General Letter to the Hon'ble President, &ca. Council drawn up and signed in answer to theirs of the 4th Inst. acquainting them of Capt. Kilpatrick's arrival here the 30th Ultimo with a party under his Command except those made prisoners at Allamparwe, also that five Chelingas with Field Carriages and Military Stores were got on this side of Sadrass, and that we have sent Mussoolahs to tow them hither; that with regard to the Tripoty money the Deputy Govr. acquaints us that as soon as Captn. Clive has marched with his Detachment to Arcot, Sampatkaw the late Nabob's Duan appointed a person to act for Mahomed Ally at that place in order to secure the money collected at the Pagoda, at the same time Bommerauze, one of the most Considerable Polygars there, sent (1000) one thousand Peons under pretence of assisting him but no sooner was he advised of Captn. Clives being blockaded than he wrote a letter to the Deputy Govr. and another to Sampatkaw acquainting them that he had received a menacing letter from Chunda Saib about his assisting Mahomed Ally, and by several expressions he plainly discovered that he determined to side with the party that was most likely to be uppermost, upon which the Deputy Govr. thought proper to send the Bombay Jemmidar with sixty of his best Seapoys and two hundred Peons (200) to try if they could bring the money away and finding that Bommerauze was not to be relyed upon, they thought it would be running to great a risque to attempt it, however, Mohomed Ally's Agent has found means to remit to Sampatkaw to the amount of thirty two thousand five hundred (32,500) Rupees and five thousand (5,000) Pagodas which shall be brought to account of Mahomed Ally's as the Honourable President &ca. are pleased to direct, and if Mahomed Ally's Affairs take the least favourable turn we flatter ourselves we shall be able to get the remainder of that. Yesterday the Deputy Govr. received a letter from Bojamgrow, Brother to Merarow the Moratta General, advising that he was arrived at Arcot and had surrounded the Camp with his Army and stopped provisions of all kinds from getting to Chunda Saib, that he had taken forty Oxen (40) and two Camels (2) load of Ammunition going to the Camp. He desered that the party we intended to send to the relief of Captn. Clive might join him as soon as possible, when he makes no doubt of being able to destroy their whole Force, upon which Captn. Kilpatrick has been ordered to march with the Detachment under his Command and to proceed directly to Arcot.

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RICHARD PRINCE,
THOMAS COOKE,
JOHN SMITH,
JOHN WALSH.

At a Consultation, Present:

Richard Prince, Esq., *Deputy Governor*,
Thomas Cook,
John Smith,
John Walsh.

Tuesday, the 26th Novr. 1751.

General Letter from the President &ca. Council of the 18th Inst. read acknowledging the receipt of ours of the 12th. That they observe what we write as to the Tripoty that it is usually given in many different coins to purchase which the Shroffs are generally there, and this year they are informed that it amounted to upwards of fifty thousand (50,000) Pagodas, that Boocurje's people were there ready to give and receive Bills, and that they recommend it to us very particularly to get it as soon as possible.

Genl. Letter from the Presidency have recd. our's of the 18th.

They are informed that the Tripoty Money amounts to 50,000 Pgs. and that there are people ready to give Bills. Order us to get it as soon as possible. Remark the No. of Shells returned to be 124.

Are very well satisfied of our having sent Capt. Kilpatrick to relieve Capt. Clive and order us to use all our endeavours to keep the Morattas in our Interest.

To send up the Account of what Rice we have and the price it was bought at.

That the Shells returned by the *Chelingas* were one hundred and twenty-four. That they are glad the Morattas are arrived at Arcot and that we have dispatched a Party of Men under Command of Captn. Kilpatrick to the relief of Captn. Clive: That they are advised that Chunda's Friends are endeavouring to alienate them from Mahomed Ally's interest, therefore they order us to act with the greatest caution and to recommend the same to the Officers abroad. That they desire we should advise them of the quantity of Rice which we have, and the prices it was bought up at, that they may be able to give us directions relating thereto.

Genl. Letter to the Presidency in Answer to the foregoing.

The Deputy Govr. has paid in the Tripoty Money and Sampatrauz has received another Bill.

Timmery Fort taken by Lieut. Bulkley.

Letter from Bajamrow, Brother to the Genl. of the Morattas.

General Letter to the Hon'ble the President &ca. Council in answer to the above drawn up and signed, aquainting them of our having received their favour of the 18th Inst. which we acknowledged by letter of the 22nd and at the same time forwarded to them our Consultations and other monthly Papers for October: that in regard to the Tripoty Money we can only say that most of the Polygars have been in the interest of Chunda Saib so that it was impossible for us to have come at it by forcible means and therefore have been obliged to rely upon Mahomed Ally's Agent for the management of this Affair, that if he had deceived Mahomed Ally by appropriating the money to his own use or suffered Chunda Saib's Agents to carry it off, the fault is not ours, and the utmost we can do (in case the remainder of the money should not be remitted us), is to endeavour to get that man here under some specious pretence and then to oblige him to give an account of his transactions, but if that cannot be done, we shall order the Seapoys to seize him, take charge of what they can find and fight their way through with it. That we have received from the Deputy Governor such part of the Tripoty Money as has been paid him by Sampatrow: That he also delivers in an account of the several disbursements made by Sampatrauz for Seapoys and Peons Wages and Batty which we have ordered the Paymaster to discharge: he likewise informs that Sampatrauz has received another Bill for five thousand (5,000) Rups. which will be payable in a few days and that he has advanced out of his money to the Buzar people that accompanied Captain Kilpatrick to Arcot sixteen hundred (1,600) Rups. which the Import Warehousekeeper is ordered to discharge. That Captain Kilpatrick arrived at Arcot the 15th Inst. But the day before he got there Chunda Saib's people attempted to storm the Fort, but were repulsed with great loss by Capt. Clive, leaving all their Artillery behind them, upon which Capt. Clive, sent out a Party under Command of Lieut. Bulkley, who took Timmery Fort, that Chunda Saib's Son is encamped near Vellore, and that Capt. Clive by a Letter to the Deputy Governor of the 20th is marched out and has encamped himself between him and Arcot, and that we expect to hear of Action every hour, that the Deputy Governor has also received a Letter from Bajamrow, Brother to Morarow, General of the Morattes wherein he confirms all that Capt. Clive mentions as to the situation of the Camps, and on our part we assure their Honour &ca. We shall use all the endeavours we can possibly to engage the Moratta to Mahomed Ally's interests.

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Deputy Govr. Ordered to be paid money he advanced on Acct. of the Expedition to Arcot.

Also Sampatrauze.

The Deputy Govr. further aquaints the Board that he has advanced to the Buzar people that accompanied Capt. Kilpatrick to Arcot sixteen hundred (1,600) Rupees which the Import Warehouse-keeper is ordered to repay him and to debit the said Buzar people for the same—An account being likewise delivered in from Sampatrow of Sundry disbursements made by him on account of the Detachment sent to Arcot amounting to ten thousand six hundred ninety-one Rupees and eight Annas (10,691-8-0) ordered the like quantity of Rupees be received from the Import Warehousekeeper and advanced to the Paymaster to discharge the same.

The Paymaster to be advanced on the above account.

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RICHARD PRINCE.

THOMAS COOKE.

JOHN SMITH.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 887 F. D.—29-7-92.—500.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THOMAS SAUNDERS, ESQ., *Governor, President,*
RICHARD STARKE,
HENRY POWNEY,
CHARLES BODHAM,
GEORGE PIGOT,
ALEXANDER WYNCH.

It being debated what measures it may be necessary to pursue to protect the Bounds of Poonamalee and St. Thomé from the ravages of the enemy and keep them at a greater Distance, as it is very certain there are none can be undertaken with any hopes of success without having a Body of Horse in our Service, it being impossible to march out after them with Infantry as they chiefly consist of Cavalry, and though the Nabob has been often importun'd on that head and promis'd to send a Detachment, yet we have but small expectations of receiving any from him, it's judg'd highly expedient to raise a Body of Black Horse and to bring the charge of them to his account, as it will be more for his benefit than our own by giving us we hope an opportunity of extirpating the enemy, wherefore it's agreed as we understand young Chunda's People are very indifferently paid and may be easily prevail'd on to come over to us, that we give Directions to the Gentlemen at Madrass to use their endeavours for that end, and to enlist as many others as they can procure, and that as soon as they have a body sufficient to take the Field with, Captain Clive be desir'd to hold himself in readiness, and if he thinks he has a Force strong enough, to use his endeavours to drive the enemy entirely from those parts.

THOS. SAUNDERS,
RICH. STARKE,
CHAS. BODDAM,
HENRY POWNEY,
A. WYNCH.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THOMAS SAUNDERS, ESQ., *Governor, President,*
CHARLES BODDAM,
GEORGE PIGOT,
HENRY POWNEY,
ALEXANDER WYNCH.

(1752)

Monday the 17th. (February)

The President produces to the Board two Letters from Captain Clive dated 10th & 11th Instant advising that he had taken upon him the Command of the Army at Madrass and had been joined by part of the Bengal Detachment that were arriv'd from thence on the Ship *Fort S^{t}. David* but was apprehensive of not meeting with any Arms, therefore request a supply having rais'd about five hundred Sepoys for whom he is in want of them. That he was then encamped in a very strong situation at the little Mount, and the enemy were about seven miles distant whose strength, from an exact account he had procur'd, consisted of about fourteen hundred Sepoy's Matchlocks, &^{c}, and about the same number of Horse, though only six hundred were esteem'd good, thirty Europeans, eighty Topasses, with eight small Field Pieces and two Tomans.

THO^{S} SAUNDERS,
CHAS. BODDAM,
HENRY POWNEY,
A^{R} WYNCH.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THOMAS SAUNDERS, ESQ., *President*,
CHARLES BODDAM,
GEORGE PIGOT,
HENRY POWNEY,
ALEXANDER WYNCH.

Monday the 24th.

The President lays before the Board two Letters he has received from Captain Clive dated the 15th & 20th Instant, the most material part of which is viz^{t}, that he has received a Letter from Captain D^{e} Gingins representing how necessary a Step his proceeding to Trichinopoly will be; that Captain Kilpatrick had joined him from Arcot by which with the Bengal Detachment his party consisted of four hundred Military and Train, Thirteen hundred Sepoys besides Matchlocks and 120 horse which last he found great difficulty in raising as money would not do it; that he should do his utmost to bring the enemy to an engagement, if the strength of their situation did not render it imprudent to attack them in it, in which case he thinks it will be best to come this way in order to proceed to Trichinopoly to join Captain D^{e} Gingins, and if he can be strongly reinforced with Military from hence, Deve Cottah and Chellambrum, is of opinion it will soon put an end to the disturbances of the Province, and that he designs leaving behind him for the protection of Madrass about sixty Military, some Horse and Sepoys.

The President likewise lays before them a Letter he wrote Captain Clive of the 22nd Instant in answer thereto, the purport of which is as follows: To consult with the Deputy Governor what Force it may be necessary to leave for the security of Madrass; that the Force we have already at Trichinopoly is reported to be far superior to the enemy's; and Captain Gingins had wrote his intentions were to move with half of it when there were no thoughts of his reinforcement; therefore three hundred Rank and File Men, with Sepoys and some Horse, he was of opinion, would be sufficient for his expedition thither, recommending to him to engage young Chunda if possible, as should we succeed it will be of great service; directing him to furnish himself with every thing he judges he shall require for his expedition, and as Officers will be wanting, Captains Kilpatrick and Campbell are to go to Trichinopoly, which the Board approve of.

THO^{S} SAUNDERS,
CHA^{S} BODDAM,
HENRY POWNEY,
A^{R} WYNCH.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THOMAS SAUNDERS, ESQ., *Governor, President,*
CHARLES BODDAM,
GEORGE PIGOT,
HENRY POWNEY,
ALEXANDER WYNCH.

Monday the 2nd.

The President lays before the Board three Letters receiv'd from Captain Clive since last Meeting, dated the 24th, 26th & 29th Ultimo, the chief Purport of which are, vizt. of the first, that the enemy had quitted their Camp, though an extreme strong situation, even so much so that he could never have ventur'd to have attack'd them in it, therefore intended to have march'd this way; of the second, that receiving information they were gone towards Arcot and had a design upon that place; he apprehended treachery from Murtaz Ally Caun and had march'd after them with the utmost haste; and of the last that the enemy having possessed themselves of a strong spot of ground near Coverepauk, an engagement ensued wherein they were entirely defeated, an Aid Major, thirtynine French and eighteen Topasses made prisoners, all the Cannon, eight large Tumbrills of Ammunition, above two hundred Barrels of Gunpowder taken with a Number of Carriage Bullocks and every thing else they had belonging to them, and had it not been late in the evening not a single Man would have escap'd. That the Head Jemidar of Chunda's Horse was killed and a great many French, and our loss had been pretty considerable, besides Ensign Keene, and Mr Preston, a Volunteer wounded. He also mentions that in his way thither he had taken Conjeveram with fifteen Topasses and sixty Seapoys with very good Arms.

The President also produces draught of a Letter from him to Captain Clive in answer to the foregoing, the Contents whereof are as follows: Recommending the disposal of the Prisoners in such a manner that they may not act against the Nabob again in the Field or in Garrison, and to lodge them at Arcot or under Sumpetrow's direction at Madrass, but if possible to avoid the latter, lest it should give umbrage; directing him to send into Madrass all the Cannon and Warlike Stores he has now taken as well as what may be superfluous at Arcot and be expeditious therein. To leave a Force at all events at Madrass and to send immediate advice of his further designs; which the Board approve of.

THOS SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR WYNCH.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THOMAS SAUNDERS, ESQ., *Governor, President,*
CHARLES BODDAM,
GEORGE PIGOT,
HENRY POWNEY,
ALEXANDER WYNCH.

Monday the 9th.

Sundry Letters from Captain Clive to the President are produc'd to the Board and read and the most material part of them as follows: The first is dated the 2nd Instant at Arcot, gives a more particular account of the late action, and that he had left a party to watch the Prisoners at Covrepauk, that having intelligence, some money, Elephants and all young Chunda's Baggage was left at Vellour Pettah, he had sent to demand them of Moortaz Ally Caun and intended proceeding thither the next morning to look after them, and after refreshing his People a little should set out for this place. The second dated the 7th Instant that he is on his march hither, and on his approaching Chetteput, young Chunda retir'd to Gingee and from thence to Pondicherry, that he was encamped to the Eastward of Gingee, and hop'd to be within ten or twelve miles of Pondicherry to-day. The last dated yesterday, that he should immediately dispatch a letter to Lieutenant Grenville at Arcot to send the Cannon, &c, to Fort St George, but was apprehensive the difficulty he found himself in transporting them thither from Covrepauk would prevent his getting Cooleys to draw them; that judging it unnecessary on account of the enemy's defeat he had not dispatched any men to Madrass and was then encamped on the ground where Nazir Jung was cut off, in commemoration whereof a very fine Choultry was erected, and a Village, which Monument of Villainy he designs destroying and expected to be here the 11th.

THOMAS SAUNDERS,
CHAs BODDAM,
HENRY POWNEY,
AR WYNCH.

11th.—At about 5 this afternoon arrived Captain Clive with the Forces under his Command at Trivendupuram where they encamp'd, and orders were immediately issued out for bringing in all such Necessaries as were in want of Repair and to get the same done as soon as possible, also that the necessary Supplies of Ammunition, &c, for the use of the Camp be got ready with the greatest expedition.

At a Consultation, Present:

Thomas Saunders, Esq., Governor, *President*,
William Cockell,
William Kinneer,
Henry Powney,
Stringer Lawrence,
Charles Boddam,
Alexander Wynch.

Monday the 16th.

The Military being very well refresh'd and the Stores for the Camp all ready, ordered that the Forces march to-morrow evening to join the Army at Trichinopoly, and Major Lawrence acquainting the Board that if agreeable to them he purposes proceeding with the Troops and taking upon him the Command of the whole when he gets there, the Board entirely concur therein and his instructions being accordingly draughted out are read, approv'd and ordered to be transcrib'd. Copy whereof follows:—

To Stringer Lawrence, Esq., Commander-in-Chief of the Company's Forces in India.

Sir,

Having appointed you to the Command of the Troops at Trichinopoly, you will proceed there with the Reinforcement now put under your direction; The situation of the Nabobs as well as the Enemy's Force you will soon be acquainted with by the representation of the Officer on Command, the former must be greatly superior. We would by all means have you press an engagement as soon as possible, this we are strongly induc'd to from a certain knowledge that they have applied to Salabut Jung for a strong Reinforcement which may be reasonably expected to arrive soon as well as their Ships from Europe.

Should you prove successful, very probably the enemy must abandon their Cannon, &c, which by all accounts is considerable; The passions of the Moors are ever fluctuating, their friendship and alliance not to be depended on. We therefore, after providing in a reasonable manner for the security of Trichinopoly, think it would be prudent to send them to Deve Cotah as the leaving them there might prove a disadvantage to us; Should the enemy have address enough to secure a Retreat, you will be mindful that our Garrisons here and at Fort St George are weak, and take such measures as may prevent them doing harm to our Districts; The Nabob's allies consisting of several Countries whose Customs are greatly different from ours, we must particularly recommend you as much possible promote a harmnoy. Write us constantly the material that we may give you the proper assistance. On your departure from Trichinopoly you will leave such a Force as you judge necessary for the security of that place.

We are,
Sir,
Your most humble Servants,

THOMAS SAUNDERS,
WILLIAM COCKELL,
WILLIAM KINNEER,
CHARLES BODDAM,
HENRY POWNEY,
ALEXANDER WYNCH.

Fort St David,
17th March 1752.

At a Consultation, Present:

Thomas Saunders, Esq., *Governor, President,*
William Cockell,
William Kinneer,
Henry Powney,
Charles Boddam,
Alexander Wynch.

Major Lawrence at Camp.

Monday the 30th.

The President lays before the Board for their perusal two Letters he has received from Major Lawrence and one wrote to him since he left us; the contents of which are as follows: Of those from Major Lawrence dated 25th and 26th Instant, that he had sent Captain Clive on his being near Tanjour to wait upon the King, who treated him very handsomely, gave him great assurances of his regard for the Company and heartiness in the present alliance and expressed a desire to continue always upon the same good terms with the English. That he had been inform'd Chunda's Camp was reinforced with a hundred Europeans, seven hundered Seapoys and four Camels loaded with money, which addition he is of opinion does not yet make them formidable. That he should make what haste he could to Trichinopoly when he shall give his opinion of the enemy's situation and the designs on them. The purport of the letter to Major Lawrence dated the 29th is, that it was reported a party of a thousand French and three hundred Seapoys were at a small Fort between Wolconda and Wootatoor and ten French and a hundred Seapoys had been detach'd from Pondicherry to them.

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THOMAS SAUNDERS,
CHARLES BODDAM,
HENRY POWNEY,
Ar. WYNCH.

By the Company's Orders receiv'd per Ship *Dumington*, the Presidency is now remov'd to Fort St George.

At a Consultation, Present:

Thomas Saunders, Esq., *Governor, President*,
Richard Starke,
Thomas Cooke,
John Smith.

Major Kinneer absent on duty.

Monday the 13th April.

The President lays before the Board for the perusal the Letters he has receiv'd from and one wrote to Major Lawrence since his arrival here, the former are dated the 30th Ultimo and 1st and 4th Instant, giving an account that there have been several skirmishes with the enemy who by all accounts have suffer'd considerably, that Aulem Cawn, a Principal man among them is kill'd, and that they had thought proper on meeting with a little disturbance from us to remove to Syringam Island near the Pagoda and were encamp'd on the banks of the Calderoon, that he intended distressing them as much as possible by sending Captain Clive with a very considerable Force to Samoyeveram, a place in their rear to intercept all Convoys and prevent their getting off that way, and should continue himself at Trichinopoly to observe their motions and give them all the disturbance in his power from thence, that two French Prisoners had been taken, and three deserters from them were come over to us, from whom they learnt several more had the same intentions. That as he found the want of Battering Cannon he designed sending for two to Devecotah with some Shott and Powder which he hopes will be approv'd of. Representing he is in great distress for money, the Nabob having none, nor will the King of Mysore lend him any, wherefore thinks it highly necessary some expedient should be found for supplying him for the speedy payment of the troops, and in the interim he will endeavour to get what he can from Buckunjee; Requesting information if it would be attended with any detriment to the Company's affairs to send threatening Letters to the Poligars to deter them from assisting the enemy as they receive all their provisions from Torror and Worriarpollam, and mentioning his having appointed Lieutenant Ripington to the Grenadier Company, which he hopes will meet with approbation. The purport of the letter to the Major dated the 9th Instant is as follows: that Mr. Cockell will write a threatening letter to the Worriar of Worriarpollam, whose interest it is to regard it. That Sumpetrow having received certain advices that seventeen thousand Horse are detach'd from Aurangabad to the enemy's assistance which seems probable, an engagement is necessary as soon as it can be effected with prudence; To press the Nabob for money who told us the King of Mysore would furnish what we advanced for him, and to intimate the impossibility of carrying on his affairs without it, which meets with the Board's concurrence.

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THOMAS SAUNDERS,
RICH. STARKE,
JOHN SMITH.

At a Consultation, Present:

Thomas Saunders, Esq., *Governor, Pesident*,
Richard Starke,
Thomas Cooke,
William Kinneer,
John Smith.

Monday the 20th.

The President produces the Letters he has received from and wrote to

Camp and the Officers on Detachment since last Consultation, viz^{t}., three from Major Lawrence and copy of one from him to Mr. Cockell, giving an account of the enemy's being dispossessed of several of their Advanced Posts and their communication effectually cut off, which has greatly embarrassed them, and from the accounts he has of their distress concludes they will attempt to move soon, but is of opinion sufficient care has been taken to prevent a man of them from getting to Pondicherry or Karical, that they are situated in two strong Pagodas, to force which would require heavy Cannon and proceeding in form, but as he is perswaded they can't stay long he designs watching their motions and making their situation as uneasy as possible; That Captain Clive had taken a place with a very considerable quantity of Paddy in it called Lalgoody of great consequence, whereby their Provisions were all convey'd to them, of which they are now in the greatest want, as Deserters report. That they had intelligence a Party from Pondicherry consisting of twenty French, two hundred Seapoys and as many Horse were arrived at Wollcondah with three Lacks of Rupees and a quantity of Ammunition where they stopped on the News of the Capture of Lalgoody; That the roads are so well invested with our people there is the greatest reason to hope the men and Convoy will fall into our hands if they march, which their want of money must force them to attempt.

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THOMAS SAUNDERS,
RICHARD STARKE,
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THOMAS SAUNDERS, ESQ., *Governor, President,*
RICHARD STARKE,
THOMAS COOKE,
WILLIAM KINNEER,
JOHN SMITH.

Monday the 27th.

The Camp Correspondence since last Consultation is produced and consists of viz^{t}.:—

Two letters from Major Lawrence with copy of one from him to M^{r} Cockell advising that Captain Clive had received information a Party of the enemy were at Outatoor with Provisions and money on their March to Seringham and set out to attack them, but they being apprized of his coming went back, whereupon he made a forced March and returned to his Post atS amoyeveram; That the enemy's Army having intelligence of his being set out, but no news of his Retreat made an attempt with a strong party to possess themselves of Samoyeveram, wherein they not only luckily miscarried but all surrendered Prisoners at discretion to Captain Clive, in number two Officers and sixty-four private Men, Europeans, besides which five hundred of their Seapoys and several Europeans were cut to pieces by the Morattas in attempting to escape. That 600 of Arms and two Colours were taken and among the Prisoners were twenty-two Englishmen, Deserters, with one Kelsal who had been made an Officer and was ordered to be instantly hanged with the Hircar that had been their guide. They likewise mention that above half the enemy's Force is destroyed, and the rest so cooped up that they cannot escape which has induced the Nabob to write to Chunda and M^{r} Law to surrender themselves Prisoners, otherwise when they fall into his hands he will give them no quarter. That they are continually harrass'd by our Troops and he (the Major) hopes soon to advise of their total overthrow; but as they keep close to the Pagoda and would not Stir out when our Forces march'd across the Island a few days before to conduct Captain Clive's Prisoners to Trichinopoly which was done with a design to draw them out to an engagement. He imagines they are determined to continue in that situation, and as their numbers are much reduced, and their provisions may last them a long time, nothing can be attempted against the place without Battering Cannon, but should they endeavour to get off, he is perswaded he shall be able to give a good account of them.

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THOMAS SAUNDERS,

RICH. STARKE,

JOHN SMITH.

At a Consultation, Present:

Thomas Saunders, Esq., *Governor*, *President*,

Richard Starke,

Alexander Wynch,

Henry Powney,

John Smiih.

Monday the 1st.

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From Captain Clive advising that he came up with the enemy on the Banks of the Calderoon where he is now encamped, and after cannonading them briskly oblig'd them to retreat with precipitation, thereupon he attacked Pitchunda Pagoda which after a breach was made practicable surrendered at discretion. The garrison consisted of one Captain, four Subalterns, a hundred Europeans, fifty Topasses, two hundred Seapoys with three Pieces of Cannon and two Cohorn Mortars, that the next day, fifteen hundred Horse and some Seapoys being the remainder of Chunda's Camp came over to us, and all their accounts agree that the whole of the enemy's Force left at the two Pagodas does not exceed, three hundred French, five hundred Seapoys and one hundred Horse.

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THO^S^ SAUNDERS,

RICH. STARKE,

HENRY POWNEY,

A^R^ WYNCH,

JOHN SMITH.

At a Consultation, Present:

Thomas Saunders, Esq., *Governor*, *President*,

Richard Starke,

Henry Powney,

Alexander Wynch,

John Smith.

Monday the 8th.

* * * *

Two letters from Captain Clive, the first advising his having taken

Wolcondah and in it Mons: Dantenil, three other French Officers and fifty Europeans, three hundred Seapoys, three hundred Horse, four Pieces of Cannon, two Mortars and a large quantity of Powder, Ammunition and Warlike Stores, that he proposed to leave a Garrison there and march that Evening for Trichinopoly. The other giving us the agreeable News that Chunda Saib, the night before was taken prisoner.

Two letters from Major Lawrence, the first dated before Syringham the 1st Instant, acquainting us of Captain Clives success against Wolcondah and of Chunda Saib's being taken, that the Nabob had Summoned Mr Law, Commandant at Syringham to surrender, who offered to leave his great Guns on condition of being allowed to march out with the Honours of War, but the Nabob insists on their being made prisoners, and has sent a letter threatening to put every man to the sword if the Pagoda be not delivered up by the next day at noon. That Mr Dantenil and the other Officers had obtained leave to go to Pondicherry on their parole not to serve against the Nabob for one year unless exchanged or ransomed; the other dated the 3rd Instant, advising the surrender of Syringham on condition that the Officers be permitted to go to Pondicherry on their Parole and the Soldiers to remain Prisoners of War but to be kept at Cuddalore 'till they can be sent to Europe.

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THOMAS SAUNDERS,
RICH. STARKE,
HENRY POWNEY,
ALR WYNCH,
JOHN SMITH.

At a Consultation, Present:

Thomas Saunders, Esq., *Governor*, *President*,
Richard Starke,
Henry Powney,
William Kinneer,
Alexander Wynch,
John Smith.

Monday the 15th.

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From Major Lawrence advising that the Allies not agreeing who should have Chunda, to prevent disputes, his Head was cut off and carried into Trichinopoly.

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THOMAS SAUNDERS,
RICH. STARKE,
HENRY POWNEY,
ALR WYNCH,
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THOMAS SAUNDERS, ESQ., *Governor, President*,

RICHARD STARKE,

HENRY POWNEY,

WILLIAM KINNEER,

ALEXANDER WYNCH,

JOHN SMITH.

Monday the 29th.

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Several from Major Lawrence, the first refers to Captain Clive (by whom he writes) for the reasons that detained him so long at Trichinopoly after the surrender of Syringham.

And the President acquaints the Board that Captain Clive had accordingly informed him that a dispute had arisen between the Nabob and Mysore King. The former, it seems, to engage the latter in his interest, enter'd into an agreement to deliver up Trichinopoly and its Dependencies to him as an Indemnity for his charges and recompence for his assistance with which agreement the Mysorean now demands a punctual compliance, and on the Nabob's evading it, refuses to march with his Forces.

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THOS. SAUNDERS,

RICH. STARKE,

HENRY POWNEY,

AL^R WYNCH,

JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THOMAS SAUNDERS, ESQ., *Governor, President*,

CHARLES BODDAM,

ALEXANDER WYNCH,

HENRY POWNEY,

JOHN SMITH.

onday the 31st.

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The President acquaints the Board that he had concerted with the Nabob measures for reducing Saudet Bunder Fort and Changleput to his obedience which they are of opinion will greatly contribute to the tranquility of the Country about us, as these places give the enemy opportunities of making frequent incursions into our Villages of Poonamallee, St Thomé, &c., and that the Nabob had promis'd (if the Plan be approved) to send a Detachment of his Troops to join what Forces we can assemble without weakening the grand Army and attempt the enterprize, whereupon it is debated how far we can be assisting them in as the French Colours are hoisted on the former, and it being considered that although these places are now in possession of the French, yet as they hold them only by right of Conquest, without any Cession, Legal Grant or Phirmaund, the Nabob's natural claim to them as Governour of the Carnateck Country remains unimpeach'd and in this light we are of opinion that we may agreeable to the Law of Nations or rather the custom of Europe (not to mention the example shew'd us by the French in attacking Arcot and Coitaddy where our Colours were flying) without infringing the late Treaty of Peace between our Sovereign and the French King, assist the Nabob in consequence of our alliance with the Circar in recovering these places. It is therefore agreed that Captain Clive with what Forces can be spared from this Garrison and such as can be drawn together from Poonamallee, &c. proceed to join a Detachment of the Nabob's Troops and in conjunction with them undertake the Siege of Saudet Bunder Fort.

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THOMAS SAUNDERS,

CHAS. BODDAM,

HENRY POWNEY,

AR WYNCH,

JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THOMAS SAUNDERS, ESQ., *Governor, President,*

CHARLES BODDAM,

ALEXANDER WYNCH,

HENRY POWNEY,

JOHN SMITH.

Monday the 18th.

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The Letters from Captain Clive give an account of his being before Saudet Bander Fort, that he had reconnoitred it and judged its situation very strong, however he was preparing a Battery which would shortly be finished; that Lieut. Cooper with a Detachment having taken possession of a house and Garden about half a mile from the Fort, part of the Garrison made Sally, upon which his whole Detachment, except a few Volunteers, fled and left him wounded in the enemy's possession who carried him into the Fort.

The President's Letters are

To Major Lawrence acquainting him with the advices received from Captain Clive, and that if the Nabob would move towards Waldour, it might prevent the enemy sending any supplies to Saudet Bander, that the Troops have taken possession of the proper places for an attack, and the Battering Cannon are gone.

To Captain Clive advising him that Lieut. Smith with a Detachment from Poonamallee is ordered to join him, and that the Battering Cannon with Ammunition will be with him as this day.

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ALR WYNCH,

JOHN SMITH,

THOS. SAUNDERS,

CHAS. BODDAM,

HENRY POWNEY,

Cobelong.—"This fort, called by the Moors Sandet Bunder." A History of the Military Transactions by the British Nation by Robert Orme.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THOMAS SAUNDERS, ESQ., *Governor, President*,
CHARLES BODDAM,
ALEXANDER WYNCH,
HENRY POWNEY,
JOHN SMITH.

Monday the 25th.

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Captain Clive advises that Saudet Bander surrendered to the Nabob's Forces the 19th Instant on the following terms:—the Commanding Officer and Europeans to have leave to go to Pondicherry with their arms and effects, the Topasses and Seapoys without Arms, and the Officer not to serve against, the Nabob for one year. That early the next morning a body of three hundred men of which ten were Europeans with two pieces of Cannon appeared in sight who were sent to the relief of the Fort; that he had attacked and defeated them, and taken the Commanding Officer, eight Europeans and above half the Party Prisoners with the Cannon and Ammunition; and having left a Garrison in the Fort, he marched from thence with the Nabob's and our Forces to Changleput where he arrived the 22nd and finds the place very strong but that it is overlooked by a high Hill, where he proposed to mount a Battery and was was in hopes of reducing it in a little time.

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The President's letters to Captain Clive are in approbation of his Conduct and encouraging him in the present enterprize against Changleput.

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AR WYNCH,
JOHN SMITH.

THOS SAUNDERS,
CHAS. BODDAM,
HENRY POWNEY,

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THOMAS SAUNDERS, ESQ., *Governor, President*,
CHARLES BODDAM,
ALEXANDER WYNCH,
HENRY POWNEY,
JOHN SMITH.

Monday the 2nd.

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Captain Clive's letters contain a very particular Relation of his Proceedings Changleput, and in one of the 30th he advises that he believes another day's firing will make the breach practicable, however that he had sent another Summons to the Commandant and encloses the Answer, the purport of which is, he offers to give up the place, but demands to march out with Arms, Baggage, &c., which was refused and he should begin to fire again in the morning and hope it will produce better terms.

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The President's Letters are also read and purport as follows:—

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Several to Captain Clive in relation to the necessary Ammunition, Stores &c., for carrying on the Siege, and particularly one dated yesterday wherein he directs that in case the Nabob's people should finish the affair, he send in the heavy Cannon and all belonging to them, but the President acquaints the Board that recollecting Major Lawrence may probably have occasion for them he wrote this morning to Captain Clive, that as there is reason to suppose Changle put has by this time surrender'd, the first thing to be done is to examine the Fort, repair the Breach and take an account of the Stores, then leave a moderate Garrison there and return to Saudet Bander and regulate what is necessary, and that it would be proper to write to Major Lawrence at Wondivash to know if he wants the heavy Cannon.

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THO^S SAUNDERS,

CHAS. BODDAM,

HENRY POWNEY,

A^R WYNCH,

JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THOMAS SANUDERS, ESQ., *Governor*, *President*,
CHARLES BODDAM,
ALEXANDER WYNCH,
HENRY POWNEY,
JOHN SMITH.

Monday the 9th.

The Military Correspondence read, viz^t.—

* * * * *

That Captain Clive has wrote him he has the President's positive orders to return with the heavy Cannon to Covelon, which renders his besieging Chetteput impracticable if it was the most advisable, but he thinks the season too for advanced, he therefore proposes to return to Trivedy and is of opinion that if the Troops were to go into Fort S^t David, it would save a great deal of money and be as well both for dismissing the Morattas and being at hand to distress or oppose the Common Enemy.

Captain Clive writes that Changleput capitulated the 1st Instant; and the 2nd, the Nabob took possession, the Garrison consisted of ten Europeans, twenty Topasses and four hundered and thirty Seapoys, that the Fort is very strong being almost encompass'd by a Morass and surrounded by two Walls, the Ramparts of which are sixteen feet thick, a wet ditch faced with stone sixty foot wide, quite round, the outward Fort and another half round the inward one, that the repair of the breach was immediately set about, and having left a sufficient Garrison and regulated other matters agreeable to order he has set out for Saudet Bander on his return hither, that he had wrote to Major Lawrence about the heavy Cannon and received answer that matters will be made up amicably at Wondivash, therefore concluding they will not be wanted has ordered them hither judging that if the Major should have occasion for any against Chetteput he may have two from Arcot which is much nearer than Changleput.

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The President's Letters are also read, vizt :—

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" Captain Clive complained of want of health, and desired to return, which " as he had executed his plan was granted, he had my orders to write you con- " cerning the heavy Cannon, which he informs me he did, and that he sent it in " when he found you had no occasion for it.

THOS SAUNDERS,

CHAS. BODDAM,

HENRY POWNEY,

AR WYNCH,

JOHN SMITH.

At a Consultation, Present:

Thomas Saunders, Esq., *Governor*, *President*,

Charles Boddam,

Alexander Wynch,

Henry Powney,

John Smith.

Friday the 8th.

Mr Lawrence's Letter, 4th October.

Letter of the 4th October.—" Captain Clive has wrote me that Changleput "has surrendered, and that you have given "him positive orders to return with the "heavy Cannon to Covelon which renders my besieging Chetteput impractic- "able if it was advisable."

Do do 23rd do

In your letter of the 23rd October " but I believe Mr Saunders can inform "you that he positively forbid Captain "Clive from joining me or sending me the "heavy Cannon when I was in the neighbourhood of Chetteput though I "wrote they might be wanted." In the course of the Correspondence it does not appear that you once wrote for or mentioned Captain Clive's joining you or heavy Cannon.

The President to Cap. Clive, 2nd Oct.

Captain Clive's Letter 4th Octr.

Captain Clive having finished his glorious Campaign desired leave to return into Garrison; it was granted; and though you had never mentioned heavy Cannon, The President not knowing whether it might not be wanted wrote to Captain Clive the 2nd October (inclosing a Letter for you) " Major "Lawrence is at Wandivash, it won't be amiss to write him to know if he wants "the heavy Cannon." Captain Clive's reply dated 4th October is " I wrote three days "ago about the heavy Cannon to the Major and received his answer but he has "since informed me matters will be made up amicably at Wondivash. I suppose " therefore there will be no occasion for them and have therefore ordered them "to Madras." The President's Letter to you of the 2nd October.—"I have wrote "to Captn. Clive to know of you if you "have any occasion for the heavy Cannon." And if these had not been sufficient you might have been supply'd with more from Arcot which is not a greater distance than Changleput.

The President's Letter 2nd Octr.

Fort St George,

11th December 1752.

THOS. SAUNDERS,

CHAS. BODDAM,

HENRY POWNEY,

AR WYNCH,

JOHN SMITH.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 709 F. D.—6-6-92.—500.

Extracts from Fort St. David Consultations, 1751-52.

29th February.—N-41.—From the Deputy Governor and the Council of Fort St. George, dated the 24th instant, advising the sloop *Fortune's* arrival there, the 23rd instant, with Captain Chase and his detachment and that he marched out that evening to join Captain Clive who was at Warrapancuna and had acquainted the Deputy Governor that the enemy on his approach had retired to Chenglaput.

" George Pigot, Commissary, lays before the Board an account of the expenses of the troops abroad in the service of the Nabob together with his own account stated in the following manner:—

George Pigot, Commissary			Dr.
	R		Pajds.
To the Hon'ble Company's Cash for the several advances made at different exchanges	1,74,350	or	45,500-0-0
To Nabob Annaverdy Cawn Bahaudur for advances made to Captain DeGingins in camp at 385 R ꝑ % .	74,742-9	or	19,413-27-15
	R2,49,092-9	Pajds.	64,913-27-15

George Pigot, Commissary			Cr.
			R
By Nabob Annaverdy Cawn Bahaudur for the amount of the general expenses of the troops in his service, from 28th March to 31st December 1751, at 385 ꝑ % . .	2,36,669-1-50		61,472-18-40
By Nabob Annaverdy Cawn Bahaudur for what advanced Captain Clive on the expedition to Arcot, accounted for by him in the Madras accounts of the said expedition at 385 ꝑ %	2,600	or	675-11-55
	R2,39,269-1-50	or Pajds.	62,147-30-15
By Charles Boddam, Commissary, for this balance now paid him	R9,823-7-30	or Pajds.	2,765-33-0

Ordered that the Accountant give the Nabob credit for the said sum of R74,742-9 fan at the rate of 385 Rupees per 100 Pajodas, which is Pajodas 19,413-27-5, and that he be debted to George Pigot, Commissary, R2,39,269-1-50 or at 385 Rupees per 100 Pajodas, is Pajodas 62,147-30-15 for the amount of the general expense of the troops in his service, including the said advance to Captain Clive.

Extracts from the General Account of the Expenses of the Troops abroad in the service of the Nabob Anneverdy Cawn Bahaudur, from the 20th March to ultimo December 1751.

		R	a.	p.
March 31—	To Robert Clive Steward for dieting the Military, 11 days . . .	2,403	6	0
April 30	„ „ „ „ this month . .	6,555	0	0
May 31	„ „ „ „ „ . .	7,047	0	0
June 30	„ „ „ „ „ . .	10,426	6	0
July 31	„ „ „ „ „ . .	12,562·	6	0
August 31	„ „ „ „ „ . .	12,570	6	0
September 30	„ „ „ „ „ . .	12,390	0	0
October 31	„ „ „ „ „ . .	10,183	6	0
November 30	„ „ „ „ „ . .	9,630	0	0
December 31	„ „ „ „ „ . .	9,009	2	0

Extracts from Public Consultations of 1758, held at Fort St. George.

6th July.—"The President also acquaints the Board that Colonel Clive has drawn on the Select Committee for Thirty Thousand Rupees on account of the sepoys sent down on the Bengal Expedition and has duly advised the Select Committee thereof: Ordered that the same be paid."

6th October.—"Letter from Bengal advising that Colonel Robert Clive had, at the request of the Board, taken upon him the Government of Bengal till a President be appointed from Europe."

G. I. C. P. O. No. 200 F. D.—21-7-92.—570.

Fort William, the 25th September 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*

THE WORLL. EDMUND H. CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.

MESSIEURS MANNINGHAM.
BEECHER.
FRANKLAND.
MACKETT.
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Order laying on the Table.

The 19th instant.—Received a letter from Nicholas Clerimbault Chief, and Council at Dacca, dated the 14th September, containing their answer to the several remarks on their investment, 1751; apprehending the severe complaints on the bad quality and exceeding high prices of the fine and superfine Alliballies, must regard some sort not sent from Dacca purchased from the merchants in Calcutta and elsewhere, as it will appear on referring to the invoices sent, that to former years the prices are rather less than increased. That account of the emulation of the French lately settled, and that the country cotton has continued at an extravagant high price for near three years past, they have been obliged to be less severe in prizing the fine cloth of all sorts and have been necessitated to take more the lower letters of the fine cloth than they should have done to prevent the Company being disappointed in quantity ordered, and this answer they request may be applied to all the sorts of fine cloth provided there. That they will in future transmit us their reasons either for sending but a part of several articles, omitting some entirely or sending more of others than are ordered, and in relation to the Alliballies, the deficiency of the fine and overflow of superfine was occasioned by the Delolls[*] and Picars[†] being deficient in the former, and in lieu bringing in an overflow of the latter, which had they not accepted of must have left them considerably more indebted to the Company than they thought prudent.

At the same time we received a letter from the Gentlemen at Jugdea under date the 27th ultimo, advising that agreeably to what Mr. Baillie wrote us under date the 13th from Dacca, they applied there for a proper Deloll to prevent the continual inconvenience and impositions; the Hon'ble Company's affairs suffer from the ruined circumstances of their Delolls, and as no Deloll of credit chuses without a removal of their factory to undertake the management of its business, so they must again recommend this point to our consideration.

The 22nd—We received a letter from the Gentlemen at Cossimbazar, date the 16th instant, accompanying ten chests of Sicca rupees.

This morning we received another letter from the Gentlemen there dated the 18th instant, enclosing invoice of the abovementioned treasure and the following papers:—

Millitary rolls for July, August, September and October.
State of their factory to the 24th ultimo.
Messrs. Jenks and Reveley their security bonds.
Charges general for July.
And allowances to the Covenanted and Millitary Servants.
Cash account for part of June, July and to the 24th August.
Treasury account for the month of August.

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[*] *Deloll.*—Dalall—Dulull.—Sometimes with one Dalal. Corruptly Deloll H. Dalal B. An agent between buyer and seller, a broker, a salesman.—Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.

[*] *Picar.*—Paikar H.—A dealer, a shopkeeper, an intermediate dealer or Agent, a broker; also one who goes about with goods for sale, a Hawker, a pedler.—*Ibid.*

By the *Oxford* we received a letter from the Gentlemen at Fort St. George, dated the 14th August, enclosing invoice and bill of lading for eighty chests of treasure, and advising of their intentions to send us some redwood, but Captain Stevens acquainted them that he should be obliged to stow it upon the Madeira wine, and apprehended its weight might be prejudicial to the casks. That they intended to put on the *Admiral Vernon* and *Colchester* a quantity, but as those ships had both been aground they feared that such an additional weight might be too great a strain to them.

By her we also received a letter from the Gentlemen at Madeira, dated the 28th January, enclosing invoice and bill of lading for 150 pipes of wine consigned to us.

By the *Oxford* we likewise received a packet from the Hon'ble the Court of Directors which being opened was found to contain the papers as inserted in the list.

Read the general letter per *Oxford*, dated the 22nd November 1751.

By the *Wager* we received a letter from the Governor and Council at Bombay, dated the 12th August, enclosing invoice and bill of lading for 600 bales of cotton and 10 chests of treasure, and desiring us to send them per *Hector* 12 or 1,500 bags of the best saltpetre procurable.

By the *Hector*, another of the Hon'ble Company's ships from Bombay, the Governor and Council there wrote us under date the 15th May that they had laden on board her 94 bales of broadcloth, long ells and imbossed cloth imported there by the *Streatham* which they found impracticable to dispose of there to advantage, likewise 519 bales of cotton and 20 chests of treasure as per invoice and bill of lading enclosed, and advising us that Captain Toddrill, their Commodore, falling in with the Portuguese fleet in which was a ship that did not hoist any colours, and upon enquiry finding she had not any pass, he determined with the advice of Captains Hindman and Mason to bring her to Bombay for their examination and decision. That upon the strictest enquiry and the several papers delivered in upon oath they found the ship was called *Mary* belonging to Mr. Irwin, &c., owners at Bengal, and the pass was taken from them at Tillecherry, the reasons for which they were then unacquainted with. That they agreed to send her to Goa whither she accordingly sailed and was there delivered to Mr. Bodley. That Mr. Bodley represented to them she was in so leaky a condition that the Commander would protest against him if she put to sea. Upon which they ordered her to be surveyed. That upon the whole they cannot forbear to mention Mr. Bodley's behaviour in endeavouring to avoid the fleet which he knew to be English, and whose signals he ought to have obeyed, together with the circumstance of the ship's being without a pass, indispensably obliged their Commodore to bring her into port.

That this has been attended with a very great loss to the island, as the Viceroy of Goa thereupon detained the Hon'ble Company's *Ketch*, the *Drake*, a countryship and a number of small craft. That thus having stated the several facts as they occurred to them, they leave it to us to determine whether Mr. Bodley's behaviour does not merit the severest reprehension as he has been the cause of so great an affront being put on the English flag by the Viceroy of Goa, and a loss to the inhabitants of that place, and his behaviour to the Master Mr. Craig, so far as appears to them, is unwarrantable and void of all humanity.

By another letter from the gentlemen at Bombay, dated the 10th August, they inform us that just as they were going to give Captain Kirwan his dispatches he acquainted them that he could not then proceed on account of the weather and near approach of the monsoon, wherefore they thought proper to lade a laack of the treasure designed by the *Hector* on board the *Wager*.

Ordered Captains Stevens Kirman and Hindman to follow all such orders as they may receive from the Import and Export Warehouse-keepers for unloading and loading their ships.

Ordered the Secretary to transmit a copy of the Hon'ble Company's standing orders relative to the Commanders of their ships to Captain Stevens.

The Committee of Treasury acquaint the Board that they divided the 10 chests of Sicca rupees received from Cossimbazar the 22nd instant and now lay before us the receipts for the amount each merchant received which were deposited in the hands of the President.

The Import Warehouse-keeper reports to the Board that on weighing off the above treasure he found a deficiency of 6 Sicca rupees.

The President delivers in the cash account for the month of August, the ballance whereof being C. Rs.5,085-1-3. Particulars, *viz.*:—

Madras Rupees	4,570 0 0	
Batta 10 per cent.	457 0 0	
		5,027 0 0
Arcot Rupees	53 0 0	
Batta 8 per cent.	4 3 9	
		57 3 9
Cowries	...	13 6
Total C. Rs.		5,085 1 3

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, and to be entered after this Consultation.

The President wanting money to supply the cash.

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to advance him thirty thousand Madras rupees.

The Buxey requesting money to defray the expenses of the factory.

Agreed that the President do advance him ten thousand Madras rupees.

The Millitary Paymaster lays before the Board the rolls of the Millitary in garrison for the months of September and October, signed by the respective officers of each company.

The President certifies to the Board that he mustered the men and found their numbers agreeable to the rolls.

Agreed that he do advance the Paymaster M. Rs. 15,500 to pay off the same and—

Ordered the abstract of each roll to be entered after this Consultation.

The Millitary Storekeeper delivers in the accounts for the month of August.

Ordered the Accountant to examine it, and agreed that the President do advance him three thousand Madras rupees.

The Sheriff sent in his note for the allowances due to him and hisofficers for the month of August which amounting to C. Rs.124-2-3.

Agreed that the President do pay the same.

The treasure per ships *Oxford*, *Hector*, and *Wager* being landed.

Ordered the Warehouse-keepers to weigh off the same and—

Agreed to dispose of it as follows:—

To send to Cossimbazar	Surat Rupees	10 chts.	
	Madras „	15 „	
			25 chts.
To send to Dacca	Arcot Rupees	10 chts.	
	Madras „	4 „	
	Bullion	16 „	
			30 chts.
To send to Jugdea	Arcot Rupees	...	10
To pay Omichund	Bullion	2	
	Surat	5	
	Madras	5	
			12
To pay the Merchants		...	21

Ordered the Buxey to provide sloops and boats to convey the treasure to the subordinates.

Agreed that we sell the cotton imported here per *Hector* and *Wager* at outcry this day month and that we put up the Hon'ble Company's iron and steel at outcry the same time, and—

Ordered public notice thereof to be given as usual at the Fort Gates.

Ordered Captain Hindman to get the *Wager* in readiness to be despatched to Europe by the 21st November, the time limited in Charter party.

Ordered the merchants to open the Cottah* in 20 days with Soot† Romals‡ and Gurrahs§ for the dispatch of the *Wager*.

As the copy of the Judicial Proceedings in the Jemindary was not laid before the Board till the 18th instant when the *Colchester* was under dispatch and too late for our inspection.

Ordered the Jemindar to lay the originals before the Board and that he do continue to lay them monthly or oftner agreeably to the Hon'ble Company's orders.

The Master Attendant sent in a letter to the Board recommending Henry Walter, a proper person and duly qualified to succeed Alexander Scott as a Pilot of this river, and Thomas Grant and Francis Morris as sober and industrious men and qualified for Masters.

Agreed that they be accordingly appointed and that the Master Attenant's report be entered after this Consultation.

He likewise sent in his account of the Hon'ble Company's Marine expenses for the month of August.

Ordered the Accountant to examine it.

Mr. William McGuire being returned from Ingelli reports to the Board the dispatch of the *Colchester* from thence the 22nd instant at which time her draught of water was 17 feet on an even keel, and further acquaints them that the St. Helena stores not being arrived on board he endorsed them off the bills of lading and advised the Gentleman at St. Helena accordingly.

Ordered the Jemindar to give public notice for the sale of the Hon'ble Company's farms at outcry on 20th October next.

Mr. Plaisted acquaints the Board that he will accept of his former posts offered him last Council and enter upon them this day.

Granted a note to Mr. Gabriel Snodgrass dated the 1st September for C. Rs. 1,295-0-3, Kisser Gose's note dated the 1st September 1751 being cancelled for that amount, *viz.*—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
For Principal	1,188	1	6
Interest for a year is	106	14	9
Total .	1,295	0	3

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* *Cottah.*—Kothi, incorrectly, Kotee, H. &c.; also. Kuti or Kuthi or Kothi, Beng. Kote, Karn. A spacious house, such as those inhabited by Europeans; a granary, a warehouse or storeroom; a mercantile or banking house or firm; a Government factory or establishment as the office of the Native Opium Agent, as well as the Chief or Sadr Factory.

† *Soot.*—Sut, H., &c., from S. Thread, Yarn: a thread, a line.

‡ *Romal.*—A handkerchief.

§ *Gurrah*—A coarse cloth.

Granted the following notes to Gabriel Snodgrass, *viz.*—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
One dated the 24th July for	891	2	6
„ 9th May for	1,148	4	0
„ 28th August for	1,308	0	0
„ 14th July for	1,090	0	0
„ 15th June for	1,090	0	0
„ 9th April for	4,228	2	6
Total . . .	9,755	9	0

to make good which sum the underwritten notes in the following names were now cancelled at the Board :—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Rogometre's dated 24th July for . . .	817	9	3			
Interest for a year is	73	9	3			
				891	2	6
Muhammad Jyuh's dated 9th May 1751 for .	1,053	7	0			
Interest for a year is	94	13	0			
				1,148	4	0
Mr. Cruttenden's dated 28th August for .	1,200	0	0			
Interest for a year is	108	0	0			
				1,308	0	0
Brijoonauth's dated 14th July for . . .	1,000	0	0			
Interest for a year	90	0	0			
				1,090	0	0
Sammoindar's dated 15th June for . . .	1,000	0	0			
Interest for a year	90	0	0			
				1,090	0	0
Goculchunds Bulrambowanny's dated 9th April for	1,769	14	3			
Interest for a year	159	4	6			
				1,929	2	9
Siboopersaud Darpersand's dated the 9th April 1751 for Principal	2,109	2	6			
Interest for a year is	189	13	3			
				2,298	15	9
TOTAL . . .				9,755	9	0

Granted a note of this date to Goarchund for C. Rs. 2,000—Ruttoo Circar's account being debited for that amount.

Granted a note, dated 22nd instant, to Messrs. Drake and Manningham on account Captain John Chubbert for C. Rs. 11,810—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Endorsed off Goarchund's note, dated 31st August 1752, for Principal	5,000	0	0			
Endorsed off Brijoomohun Bysack's dated 1st July for Principal	3,000	0	0			
Transferred to Brindabund Seal's account .	3,810	0	0			
				11,810	0	0

Ordered the Warehouse-keeper to deliver out goods lot at outcry to the amount of C. Rs. 36,330-9-6—

That sum being made good as follows:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Cancelled Nianduloll's note of 27th May for Principal	6,000	0	0			
Interest for 3 months 9 days is	148	8	0	6,148	8	0
Cancelled Prannauth's dated 27th May for	5,000	12	0			
Interest for 3 months 9 days	123	12	0	5,123	12	0
Endorsed off Dranaut's note 27th May 1752 for Principal	5,000	0	0	1,654	6	3
Endorsed off Goarchurn's dated 10th August for	30,000	0	0	17,427	9	6
Cancelled Tilluckram's dated 3rd January for	1,287	4	6			
Interest for 8 months 3 days	78	3	3	1,367	7	9
Endorsed off Tarrackchund's dated 15th June for	2,000	0	0			
Interest for 2 months 25 days is	42	8	0	2,042	8	0
Transferred to Radamohun Bysack				482	12	0
Ditto ditto ditto				3,330	9	6
Chiton Bysack				834	4	3
Niansan				700	0	0
Paid into the Treasury				220	12	3
Total				36,330	9	6

Ordered the Storekeeper to deliver out iron bot at outcry to the amount of C. Rs. 2,798-4, that sum being endorsed off.

Mr. Holwell's note, dated the 4th September, for Principal C. Rs. 5,165-6-6.

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to pay out of their office C. Rs. 1,000, that sum being endorsed off.

Messieurs Bellamy's and Mapletoft's note, dated the 29th April 1751, for C. Rs. 14,132-1-9.

Cancelled Govinchurn Seal's note, dated the 27th August 1751, and renewed the same with interest thereon for a year, *viz.*:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
For Principal	8,338	8	0
Interest for a year is	750	7	6
Total	9,088	15	6

The Import Warehouse-keeper delivers in his account of goods sold by retail in August. Particulars, *viz.*:—

		C. Rs.	a.	p.
Broadcloth, fine	44-2	275	6	0
Do. do. ordinary	10-8	23	10	0
Perpets, ordinary	1-4	1	1	6
White flannel	11	12	6	0
Allapeen	9-8	19	0	0
Velvets	8	77	4	9
Broadcloth, fine, in pieces	48 pieces	3,933	0	0
Do. do. ordinary, yellow	24	1,200	0	0
Perpets, fine scarlet	31	868	0	0
Do. ordinary green	1	19	0	0
Total		6,428	12	3

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, the amount thereof C. Rs. 6,428-12-3 being paid into the Treasury.

ROGER DRAKE JAMES, JUNR.
W. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BEECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
T. Z. HOLWELL.

To—The HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, Esq., President and Governor, &c.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,—Mr. Henry Walter, Master in the Hon'ble Company's sloop service, being thought in all respects thoroughly qualified for a Pilot, I humbly recommend to your honour, &c., as a person fitting to succeed as Pilot in the room of Mr. Alexander Scott who is discharged to go up to the coast for his health. I also recommend to your honour, &c., Thomas Graunt and Francis Morris, Mates in the said service, as being qualified to succeed as Masters, which I humbly submit to your honour, &c., and am with due respect,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,
Your most obedient and humble servants,

FORT WILLIAM,
The 25th September 1752.

(Sd.) JOHN PINSON,
Master Attendant.

Dr. *Cr.*

Fort William Cash Account, the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies for the month of August 1752.

August.		M. Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
	To Balance of last month				2,959	2	9
6th	To Treasury Office— Received from thence per order of Council this day . .	10,000	0	0			
	Batta 10 per cent. . .	1,000	0	0			
		11,000	0	0			
	Cowries . . .	2,000	0	0	13,000	0	0
	To Treasury Office— Received from thence per order of Council this day . .	5,000	0	0			
	Batta 10 per cent . .	500	0	0	5,500	0	0
	To Treasury Office— Received from thence per order of Company this day . .	25,000	0	0			
	Batta 10 per cent. . .	2,500	0	0	27,500	0	0
	To Treasury Office— Received from thence per order of Company this day . .	6,000	0	0			
	Batta 10 per cent. . .	600	0	0	6,600	0	0
	Current Rs. . .				53,659	2	9

August.		M. Rs.	a.	p.	M. R.	a.	p.
6th	By Richard Becher, Esq., Buxey— Advanced him to defray the factory expenses per order of Company this day . .	8,000	0	0			
	Batta 10 per cent. . .	800	0	0			
		8,800	0	0			
	Cowries. .	2,000	0	0	10,800	0	0
	By William McGuire, M. P. Master— Advanced him to pay the rolls for the months of July and August per order . .	2,000	0	0			
	Batta 10 per cent. . .	200	0	0	2,200	0	0
	By Thomas Coales, M. Str.-Kpr.— Advanced him to pay for Millitary stores per order of Council this day . . .				1,000	0	0
	By William Parkar, Register— Paid him his fees due on a petition account Dupchand				17	10	6
	By Mayors Court Charges— Paid Mr. Valicourt, Sheriff, the allowance due to him for the mouth July . .				124	2	3
	By Richard Becher, Esq., Buxey— Advanced him to defray the factory expenses. . .	5,000	0	0			
	Batta 10 per cent. . .	500	0	0	5,500	0	0
24th	By Account Revenues— Paid the Hughley Phowsdar four months ground rent due the 31st instant . . .	424	8	0			
	Batta 10 per cent. . .	42	7	3	466	7	3
	By Dockhead Expenses— Advanced Captain Pinson, M. Attdt., to defray the charges of the Dockhead for the month of July				5,487	0	6
31st	By Richard Becher, Esq., Buxey— Advanced him to defray the factory expenses . .	5,500	0	0			
	Batta 10 per cent. . .	500	0	0	5,500	0	0
	By Jn. Pinson— Advanced him the Pilots, &c., expenses in monthly pay .	5,000	0	0			
	Batta 10 per cent . .	500	0	0	5,500	0	0
	By Captain Ranson, Master Attendant— For Dockhead expenses for the months of October and November 1751 . . .	10,444	14	6			
	Interest for 9 months at 9 per cent.	705	0	0	11,149	14	6
	By Mayors Court Charges— Paid Messrs. Weston and Dumbleton . .				828	6	6
					48,574	1	6
					5,085	1	3
	Current Rs. .				53,659	2	9

Abstract of Captain Commander George Minchin's Company for the month of September 1752.

	M. Rs.	a.	p.
1 Commander, 10*s.* per day—19 days, 2*s*—6*d.* per M. Re.	76	0	0
2 Ensigns, 4*s.* ditto ditto ditto	60	13	0
1 Adjutant, 5*s.* ditto ditto ditto	38	0	0
1 Sergeant Major, 2*s.* 6*d.* per day—19 days, 2*s.* 6*d.* per M. Re.	19	0	0
1 Quartermaster Sergeant, 2*s.* 6*d.* per day—19 days, 2*s.* 6*d.* per M. Re.	19	0	0
4 Sergeants, 1*s.* 8*d.* per day—19 days, 2*s.* 6*d.* per M. Re.	50	10	6
3 Corporals, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto ditto	26	9	0
1 Drum Major, 1*s.* 8*d.* ditto ditto ditto	12	10	6
4 Drummers, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto ditto	35	9	0
1 Volunteer, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto ditto	12	11	0
76 Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto ditto	481	6	0
6 Centinels entered, not entered in last musters	124	0	0
4 Ditto not received subscription for July and August	82	12	0
Stoppages that the men of this Company have desired to be paid their families	41	14	0
	1,081	15	0

ON COMMAND.

	M. Rs.	a.	p.
1 Lieutenant, 5*s.* per day—19 days	38	0	0
1 Sergeant, 1*s.* 8*d.* ditto ditto	12	11	0
4 Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto	25	6	0
1 Centinel, 10*s.* ditto ditto	25	6	0
1 Sergeant, 1*s.* 8*d.* ditto ditto	12	11	0
2 Corporals, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto	15	5	0
1 Volunteer, ditto ditto	...		
22 Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto	113	9	0
	243	0	0

GEORGE MINCHIN.
FRANCIS HAYES.
PETER SMITH.
Mustered.
ROGER DRAKE.

Abstract of Captain Thomas Fenwick's Company for the month of September.

	M. Rs.	a.	p.
1 Captain, 10*s.* per day—19 days, 2*s.* 6*d.* per M. Re.	76	0	0
1 Lieutenant, 5*s.* ditto ditto ditto	38	0	0
2 Ensigns, 4*s.* ditto ditto ditto	69	13	0
5 Sergeants, 1*s.* 8*d.* ditto ditto ditto	63	5	8
5 Corporals, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto ditto	44	5	3
3 Drummers, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto ditto	26	10	0
65 Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto ditto	411	10	9
4 Recruits, pay due	82	10	6
Stoppages that the men have desired to be paid their families	48	15	9
	852	5	9

ON COMMAND.

	M. Rs.	a.	p.
1 Sergeant, 1*s.* 8*d.* per day	8	3	9
1 Drummer, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto	6	6	0
23 Centinels, 10*s.* ditto	103	10	9
3 Ditto, 10*s.* ditto	19	0	0
3 Ditto, 10*s.* ditto	19	0	0
1 Centinel, 10*s.* ditto	6	5	3
	162	9	9

THOMAS FENWICK.
Mustered.
ROGER DRAKE.

Abstract of Captain David Clayton's Company for the month of September.

	M. Rs.	a.	p.
1 Captain, 10*s.* per day—19 days, 2*s* 6*d.* per M. Re.	76	0	0
4 Sergeants, 1*s.* 8*d.* ditto ditto ditto	50	10	8
4 Corporals, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto ditto	35	8	0
3 Drummers, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto ditto	26	10	0
67 Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto ditto	424	5	4
2 Recruits for July and August	41	5	4
1 Recruit, ditto ditto	10	5	4
1 Centinel returned from Dacca	20	10	8
Stoppages that the men have desired may be paid their families	67	9	0
	753	0	4

ON COMMAND.

	M. Rs.	a.	p.
1 Ensign, 4*s.* per day—19 days	30	7	0
4 Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto	25	5	1
1 Lieutenant, 5*s.* ditto ditto	38	0	0
3 Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto	19	0	0
1 Ensign, 4*s.* 2 Sergeants, 1*s.* 8*d.* 2 Corporals, 1*s.* 2*d.* 2 Drummers, 1*s.* 2*d.* 24 Centinels, 10*s.* } on the Coast	176	1	4
	288	13	8

DAVID CLAYTON.
Mustered.
ROGER DRAKE.

Abstract of Captain Robert Sanderson's Company for the month of September 1752.

		M. Rs.	a.	p.
1	Ensign, 4*s.* per day—19d ays, 2*s.* 6*d.* per M. Re.	30	6	6
4	Sergeants, 1*s.* 8*d.* ditto ditto ditto	50	10	9
1	Corporal, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto ditto	8	14	0
3	Drummers, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto ditto	26	10	0
58	Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto ditto	367	5	3
1	*Ditto* 10*s.* ditto ditto ditto	10	5	3
1	Recruit, pay due last muster	20	10	6
	Stoppages that the men desire to be paid their families	58	10	0
		573	8	3

On Command.

1	Captain, 10*s.* per day—19 days	76	0	0
1	Lieutenant, 5*s.* ditto ditto	38	0	0
1	Ensign, 4*s.* ditto ditto	30	6	6
2	Sergeants, 1*s.* 8*d.* ditto ditto	20	5	3
3	Corporals, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto	16	8	0
1	Drummer, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto	5	0	0
29	Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto	137	10	0
4	Ditto 10*s.* ditto ditto	25	5	0
3	Ditto 10*s.* ditto ditto	18	15	9
1	Centinel, 10*s.* ditto ditto	6	5	3
		374	7	9

GEORGE MINCHIN.

Mustered.

ROGER DRAKE.

Abstract of Captain James Chase's Company for the month of September.

		M. Rs.	a.	p.
2	Ensigns, 4*s.* per day—19 days, 2*s.* 6*d.* per M. Re.	60	13	0
4	Sergeants, 1*s.* 8*d.* ditto ditto ditto	50	10	9
3	Corporals, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto ditto	26	10	0
3	Drummers, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto ditto	26	10	0
59	Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto ditto	373	10	9
1	Centinel returned from Dacca	10	5	3
1	Ditto ditto Jugdea	10	5	3
3	Recruits, pay due last muster	62	0	0
	Stoppages that the men of this Company have desired to be paid their families	45	10	0
		666	11	0

On Command.

1	Captain, 10*s.* per day on the Coast	76	0	0
1	Lieutenant, 5*s.* ditto ditto	38	0	0
1	Sergeant, 1*s.* 8*d.* ditto ditto	8	3	9
2	Drummers, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto	11	6	0
26	Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto	106	8	3
1	Sergeant, 1*s.* 8*d.* ditto ditto	12	10	9
2	Corporals, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto	17	12	0
5	Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto	31	10	9
4	Ditto 10*s.* ditto ditto	25	5	3
		327	8	9

GEORGE MINCHIN.

WILLIAM KEENE.

GRAINGER MUIR.

Mustered.

ROGER DRAKE.

Abstract of the Artillery Company for the month of September.

		M. Rs.	a.	p.
1	Capt. Lieut., £8 6*s.* 8*d.* per month, 2*s.* 6*d.* per M. Re.	42	3	6
3	Sergeants, £2 ditto ditto	45	9	9
2	Corporals, £1 6*s.* ditto ditto	22	12	8
2	Drummers, £1 ditto ditto	15	3	2
55	Gunners, £1 ditto ditto	417	15	1
	Stoppages that the men have desired to be paid their wives	55	0	0
1	Gunner for 53 days, 2 do. — 88 days and 2 do. — 60 days	95	13	7
1	Gunner, 29 days, 1—6 days and for do.	2	9	10
		697	3	7

Appendix.

1	Overseer of the smiths	16	5	4
1	Man for forge	5	5	10
1	Man for files	6	4	0
1	Gunsocker	2	8	11
14	Men for heavy work	30	4	5
1	Overseer and Tindel of lascars	5	1	10
20	Lascars	38	2	0
1	Overseer of the arm-cleaners	3	2	8
26	Arm-cleaners	49	9	0
1	Carpenter	6	5	4
2	Carpenters	5	1	10
1	Writer	19	0	0
1	Wheeler	19	0	0
1	Turner	7	9	9
1	Shoe-maker for armory	3	12	10
1	Brazier	2	8	11
1	Sergeant, returned from the Coast, pay for September and October	20	0	0
2	Gunners, from Cossimbazar for 62 days	24	0	0
		952	3	1

L. WITHRNGTON.

Abstract of Captain Commander George Minchin's Company for the month of October 1752.

	M. Rs.	a.	p.
1 Commander, 10*s*. per day—31 days, 2*s*. 6*d*. per M. Re.	124	0	0
2 Ensigns, 4*s*. ditto ditto ditto	99	4	0
1 Adjutant, 5*s*. ditto ditto ditto	62	0	0
1 Sergeant Major, 2*s*. 6*d*. per day—31 days, 2*s*. 6*d*. per M. Re.	31	0	0
1 Quartermaster Sergeant, 2*s*. 6*d*. per day—31 days, 2*s*. 6*d*. per M. Re.	31	0	0
4 Sergeants, 1*s*. 8*d*. per day—31 days, 2*s*. 6*d*. per M. Re.	82	0	0
3 Corporals 1*s*. 2*d*. ditto ditto ditto	43	7	0
1 Drum Major, 1*s*. 8*d*. ditto ditto ditto	20	10	0
4 Drummers, 1*s*. 2*d*. ditto ditto ditto	57	14	0
1 Volunteer	20	0	0
76 Centinels 10*s*. per day—31 days, 2*s*. 6*d*. per M. Re.	785	6	0
Stoppages that the men of this Company desire may be paid to their families	66	0	0
	1,422	9	0

On Command.

	M. Rs.	a.	p.
1 Lieutenant, 5*s*. per day	62	0	0
1 Sergeant, 1*s*. 8*d*. ditto	20	10	0
4 Centinels, 10*s*. ditto	41	6	0
4 Ditto 10*s*. ditto	41	6	0
1 Sergeant, 1*s*. 8*d*. ditto	20	10	0
2 Corporals, 1*s*. 2*d*. ditto	24	14	0
1 Volunteer, ditto	...		
32 Centinels	185	6	0
	1,818	13	0

GEORGE MINCHIN.

FRANCIS HAYES.

PETER SMITH.

Mustered.

ROGER DRAKE.

Abstract of Captain Thomas Fenwick's Company for the month of October.

	M. Rs.	a.	p.
1 Captain, 10*s*. per day—31 days, 2*s*. 6*d*. per M. Re.	124	0	0
1 Lieutenant, 5*s*. ditto ditto ditto	62	0	0
2 Ensigns, 4*s*. ditto ditto ditto	99	3	3
5 Sergeants, 1*s*. 8*d*. ditto ditto ditto	103	5	3
5 Corporals, 1*s*. 2*d*. ditto ditto ditto	72	5	3
3 Drummers, 1*s*. 2*d*. ditto ditto ditto	43	6	0
65 Centinels, 10*s*. ditto ditto ditto	671	10	9
Stoppages that the men desire may be paid to their families	77	0	0
	1,252	14	6

On Command.

	M. Rs.	a.	p.
1 Sergeant, 1*s*. 8*d*. per day	13	10	9
1 Drummer, 1*s*. 2*d*. ditto	10	7	6
23 Centinels, 10*s*. ditto	171	10	9
3 Ditto 10*s*. ditto	31	0	0
3 Ditto 10*s*. ditto	31	0	0
1 Ditto 10*s*. ditto	10	5	3
	268	2	3

THOMAS FENWICK.

Mustered.

D. ROGER DRAKE.

Abstract of Captain David Clayton's Company for the month of October.

	M. Rs.	a.	p.
1 Captain, 10*s*. per day, 31 days	124	0	0
4 Sergeants, 1*s*. 8*d*. ditto ditto	82	10	8
4 Corporals, 1*s*. 2*d*. ditto ditto	57	14	0
3 Drummers, 1*s*. 2*d*. ditto ditto	43	6	6
67 Centinels, 10*s*. ditto ditto	692	5	4
Stoppages that the men of this Company desire may be paid their families	101	0	0
	1,101	4	6

On Command.

	M. Rs.	a.	p.
1 Ensign, 4*s*. per day	49	9	9
4 Centinels, 10*s*. ditto	41	5	4
1 Lieutenant, 5*s*. ditto	62	0	0
3 Centinels, 10*s*. ditto	31	0	0
1 Ensign, 4*s*. 2 Sergeants, 1*s*. 8*d*. 2 Corporals, 1*s*. 2*d*. 2 Drummers, 1*s*. 2*d*. 24 Centinels, 10*s*. } on the Coast	295	13	2
	479	12	2

DAVID CLAYTON.

Mustered.

ROGER DRAKE.

Abstract of Captain Robert Sanderson's Company for the month of October 1752.

		M. Rs.	a.	p.
1	Ensign, 1*s.* per day—31 days, 2*s.* 6*d.* per M. Re.	49	9	0
4	Sergeants 1*s.* 8*d.* per day—31 days, 2*s.* 6*d.* per M. Re.	82	10	9
1	Corporal 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto ditto	14	7	6
2	Drummers, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto ditto	43	5	6
58	Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto ditto	599	5	3
	Stoppages that the men of this Company desire may be paid to their families	92	0	0
		881	6	0

ON COMMAND ON THE COAST.

		M. Rs.	a.	p.
1	Captain, 10*s.* per day	124	0	0
1	Lieutenant, 5*s.* per day	62	0	0
1	Ensign, 4*s.* per day	49	9	0
2	Sergeants, 1*s.* 8*d.* per day	33	5	3
2	Corporals, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto	27	5	6
1	Drummer, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto	8	7	0
28	Centinels, 10*s.* per day	227	5	3
4	Ditto 10*s.* ditto	41	5	3
3	Ditto 10*s.* ditto	31	0	0
1	Centinel 10*s.* ditto	10	5	3
		614	10	6

GEORGE MINCHIN.

Mustered.

ROGER DRAKE.

Abstract of Captain James Chase's Company for the month of October.

		M. Rs.	a.	p.
2	Ensigns, 4*s.* per day—31 days, 2*s.* 6*d.* per M. Re.	99	3	0
4	Sergeants, 1*s.* 8*d.* ditto ditto ditto	82	10	9
3	Corporals, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto ditto	43	6	6
3	Drummers, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto ditto	43	6	6
59	Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto ditto	609	10	9
	Stoppages that the men of this Company have desired to be paid their families	71	0	0
		949	5	6

ON COMMAND ON THE COAST.

		M. Rs.	a.	p.
1	Captain, 10*s.* per day—31 days	124	0	0
1	Lieutenant, 5*s.* ditto ditto	62	0	0
1	Sergeant, 1*s.* 8*d.* ditto ditto	13	10	9
2	Drummers, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto	18	15	0
26	Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto	214	10	9
1	Sergeant, 1*s.* 8*d.* ditto ditto	20	10	9
2	Corporals, 1*s.* 2*d.* ditto ditto	28	15	0
5	Centinels, 10*s.* ditto ditto	51	10	9
4	ditto 10*s.* ditto ditto	41	5	3
		573	14	3

GEORGE MINCHIN.

WILLIAM KEENE.

GRAINGER MUIR.

Mustered.

ROGER DRAKE.

Abstract of the Artillery Company for the month of October.

		M. Rs.	a.	p.
1	Captain-Lieutenant, £8-6-8*d.* per month	66	10	8
3	Sergeants, 2*s.* per day	74	6	3
2	Corporals, 1*s.* 6*d.* ditto	37	3	0
2	Drummers, 1*s.* ditto	24	12	10
55	Gunners, 1*s.* ditto	681	6	4
	Stoppages that the men desired may be paid their families	55	0	0
		939	7	8

APPENDIX.

		M. Rs.	a.	p.
1	Overseer of the smiths	10	0	0
1	Forge man	6	8	0
1	Files man	9	8	0
1	Gunstocker	4	0	0
14	Men for heavy work	47	8	0
1	Overseer of the Lascars	8	0	0
20	Lascars	60	0	0
1	Overseer of arm-cleaners	5	0	0
26	Arm-cleaners	78	0	0
1	Head carpenter	16	0	0
2	Head carpenters	8	0	0
1	Writer	30	0	0
1	Wheeler	31	0	0
1	Turner	12	6	5
1	Shoe-maker for armory	6	0	0
1	Brazier	4	0	0
		329	14	6

GEORGE MINCHIN.

LAW WHITHERNGTON.

Mustered.

ROGER DRAKE.

Muster Roll of invalids for the month of September 1752.

	M.Rs.	a.	p.
Nathl. Jacobs, at 2 Madr. rupees per diem	38	0	0
James Dunkley, at 1 Madr. rupee per diem	19	0	0
Joseph Tompson	11	9	3
Nichs. Arnold	8	10	3
Jno. Volleguard	8	10	3
John George	5	12	6
John Gosper	5	12	6
Cornelius Peter	5	12	6
Peter Cooper	5	12	6
Law: Derickson	5	12	6
Porto Vano	4	10	3
Paul Negora	4	10	3
Reamond D'Souza	4	10	3
John Gonsalve	4	10	3
Manuel Montero	4	10	3
Clement Anthony	4	10	3
Wm. Johnson	4	10	3
Anthony D'Rozario, Drummer	4	10	0
Daniel Pane	4	10	3
Jno. Lawrence	4	10	3
Francis Manuel	4	10	3
Domingo Lovoo	4	10	3
Anthy. D'Rozario	2	8	6
Manl. Rebero	4	10	6
Anthy. Gomez	4	10	6
Alexander Rule	4	10	6
Nichs. D'Cruze	4	10	6
Nichs. D'Costa	4	10	6
Sultan Lascar	2	10	6
Manl. Rodriguez	4	10	6
Law: D'Rozario	4	10	6
Gustavus Remedy	4	10	6
Lewis Dorsey	4	10	6
Manl. D'Rozario	4	10	6
Thomas Tilley	4	10	6
Bearers' subsistance by order of a Court-Martial	2	8	0
Madras Rs.	233	5	9

GEORGE MINCHIN.

Muster Roll of invalids for the month of October 1752.

	M.Rs.	a.	p.
Nathl. Jacobs, at 2 Madras rupees per diem	62	0	0
Jas. Dunkley, at 1 Madras rupee per diem	31	0	0
Jo. Thompson	18	5	0
Nichs. Arnold	13	10	6
Jno. Volleguard	13	10	6
Jno. Gosper	9	2	6
Jno. George	9	2	6
Cornelius Peter	9	2	6
Peter Cooper	9	2	6
Law: Derickson	9	2	6
Porto Vano	7	5	6
Paul Negora	7	5	6
Reamd. D'Souza	7	5	6
Jno. Gonsalve	7	5	6
Manl. Montero	7	5	6
Clement Anthony	7	5	6
Wm. Johnson	7	5	6
Anthony D'Rozario, Drummer	7	5	6
Dan. Pane	7	5	6
Jno. Lawrence	7	5	6
Fras. Manuel	7	5	6
Domingo Lovoo	7	5	6
Anth. D'Rozario	4	0	2
Manl. Rebero	7	5	6
Anth. Gomez	7	5	6
Alexander Rule	7	5	6
Nichs. D'Souza	7	5	6
Nichs. D'Costa	7	5	6
Sultan Lascar	4	8	0
Manl. Rodriguez	7	5	6
Law: D'Rozario	7	5	6
Gustanus Remedy	7	5	6
Lewis Dorsey	7	5	6
Manl. D'Rozario	7	5	6
Thomas Tilley	7	5	6
Bearers' subsistance by order of a Court-Martial	4	0	0
Madras Rs.	363	13	2

GEORGE MINCHIN.

Mustered.

P. ROGER DRAKE.

Abstract of part of Captain Polier's Company for September 1752.

	M.Rs.	a.	p.
1 Lieutenant, at 5*s*. per diem, 19 days, at 2*s*. 6*d*. per Madras rupee	38	0	0
1 Ensign, at 4*s*. per diem, 19 days, at 2*s*. 6*d*. per Madras rupee .	30	6	6
3 Sergeants, at 1*s*. 8*d*. per diem, 19 days, at 2*s*. 6*d*. per Madras rupee	38	0	0
4 Corporals, at 1*s*. 2*d*. per diem, 19 days, at 2*s*. 6*d*. per Madras rupee	35	8	0
3 Drummers, at 1*s*. 2*d*. per diem, 19 days, at 2*s*. 6*d*. per Madras rupee	26	10	0
63 Centinels at 10*s*. per diem, 19 days, at 2*s*. 6*d*. per Madras rupee	399	0	0
Madras Rupees .	567	8	6

GEORGE MINCHIN.
ALEXANDER PEIJER.
JOHN CONRAD ZEIGLER.
Mustered.
ROGER DRAKE.

Abstract of part of Captain Polier's Company for October 1752.

	M.Rs.	a.	p.
1 Lieutenant, at 5*s*. per diem, 31 days, at 2*s*. 6*d*. per Madras rupee	62	0	0
1 Ensign, at 4*s*. per diem, 31 days, at 2*s*. 6*d*. per Madras rupee .	49	9	0
3 Sergeants, at 1*s*. 8*d*. per diem, 31 days, at 2*s*. 6*d*. per Madras rupee	62	0	0
4 Corporals, at 1*s*. 2*d*. per diem, 31 days, at 2*s*. 6*d*. per Madras rupee . . - . .	57	14	0
3 Drummers, at 1*s*. 2*d*. per diem, 31 days, at 2*s*. 6*d*. per Madras rupee	43	7	6
63 Centinels, at 10*s*. per diem, 31 days, at 2*s*. 6*d*. per Madras rupee.	651	0	0
Madras Rupees .	925	14	6

GEORGE MINCHIN.
ALEXANDER PEIJER.
JOHN CONRAD ZEIGLER
Mustered.
ROGER DRAKE.

Fort William, the 28th September 1752.

Thursday. AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President*.
THE WORLL. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.
MESSIEURS MANNINGHAM.
BECHER.
FRANKLAND.
MACKETT.
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 25th being wrote fair, was now read, approved and signed.

This morning we received a letter from the Gentlemen at Jugdea accompanying 90 bundles and 5 tucktaes of cloth despatched to us on our Hon'ble Masters' account.

The President requesting money to supply the cash.

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to advance him four thousand Madras rupees (M. Rs. 4,000). The Export Warehouse-keeper requesting money to defray the expences of the Cottah.

Agreed that the President do advance him one thousand Madras rupees (M. Rs. 1,000).

The Marine Account for the month of August having been duly examined and there appearing from the abstract to be a balance due to the Master Attendant of Current Rs. 6,166-11-9.

Agreed that the President do pay the same. Finding the charges reparation of the Budgrows to be very high and considering the great risk of their being lost in sending them down the river at the time of the year our ships are despatched which we are of opinion will be eased to our Hon'ble Masters by turning the *Dolphin* sloop (purchased only for the service of the river) into a yacht. We sent for the Master Attendant who agreeing with us in opinion was directed to turn her into a yacht with the utmost expedition. The securities for Annunchund and Nianchund were now sent for and acquainted us that they could sell their effects by the 30th December to make good any demands the Hon'ble Company may have on Anunchund-Nianchund, and in the intermediate time they gave us sufficient security for their personal appearance, agreeing in case that they do not sell their effects by that time, for us to put them up at publick outcry the beginning of January.

Mr. Holwell Jemindar lays before the Board the Judicial Proceedings of the Jemindary brought up to the 26th instant, also register of the fines in obedience to the order of last Council, for our inspection.

Cancelled the following notes and renewed, the same with interest thereon for a year, *viz.*—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Mr. John Sullivan's dated the 2nd April 1751 for	3,216	5	6
Interest for a year is	289	7	6
	3,505	13	0
Mr. Irivin's account Geo. Williamson, dated 1st May 1751	1,000	0	0
Interest for a year is	90	0	0
	1,090	0	0

Granted a note to Russickloll, dated 1st May 1752, for Current Rs. 5,319-14. Radacondseat's account being debited for that sum.

Granted a note to Messrs. Amyat and Fullerton, dated 24th September, account Mr. John Smith for C. Rs. 10,800.

Omichund's account being debited for that sum.

Granted a note to Rampershad, dated 25th instant, for C. Rs. 500. Ramsurun Gungaram's account being debited for that amount.

Ordered the Warehouse-keeper to deliver out goods bot at outcry to the amount of C. Rs. 15,780-14-9; that sum being made good as follows:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Cancelled Goarchurn's note of 10th August 1752 for Principal	30,000	0	0
Interest for 1 month 2 days	240	0	0
	30,240	0	0
Deduct endorsed off	26,596	7	3
	3,643	8	9
Transferred to Omichund's account	8,851	0	6
Ditto Ghireedur Dut's	363	15	9
Paid into the Treasury	1,368	11	9
Ditto ditto	1,553	10	0
	15,780	14	9

The Treasure designed for Cossr. being laden on the boats—

Agreed that we dispatch them under the care of Ensn. Muir and that we write to the Gentlemen there to enclose the manjee's receipts.

And as we propose dispatching the *Wager* to Europe by the 21st November—

Agreed to write to the several subordinates to send us what goods they may have ready to be down here by the 15th of that month.

ROGAR DRAKE, JUNR.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
T. Z. HOLWELL.

Fort William, the 9th October 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*
THE WORLL. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.
MESSIEURS MANNINGHAM.
BECHER.
FRANKLAND.
MACKETT.
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 28th ultimo being now wrote fair, was read, approved and signed.

The President wanting money to supply the cash.

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to advance him thirteen thousand Madras rupees (M. Rs. 13,000).

The President acquaints the Board that he has thought proper to grant the following commissions on the recommendation of the Captain Commandant: Lieutenant's Commissions to Messrs. Kempe and Keen, and a Ensign's Commission to Mr. Talbot on his promise of future good behaviour.

The Buxey requesting money to defray the expences of this factory—

Agreed that the President do advance him ten thousand Madras rupees (M. Rs. 10,000).

Mr. William Rider delivers in his report of private trade found on board ship *Oxford.*

Ordered that Warehouse-keeper to compare it with the manifest. The Import Warehouse-keeper reports to the Board that he has weighed off the treasure by the undermentioned ships and found the following deficiencies:—

Per *Oxford*	4 Arcot rupees and 1 Madras.
„ *Hector*	16 Bombay rupees.
„ *Wager*	13 „ „

Ordered him to demand the amount thereof from the respective Captains.

The Master Attendant delivers in his account of the Hon'ble Company's Marine expenses in the month of September.

Ordered the Accomptant to examine it.

He likewise lays before the Board an account of the wages paid the pilots and seamen belonging to the sloops for the month of September, with vouchers for the several disbursements therein.

Ordered the Accomptant to examine it.

Captain Kirwan sent in a letter requesting that Redwood, agreeable to the terms of his Charter party, may be laden on board the *Hector.*

Ordered the Warehouse-keeper to comply therewith, and his letter to be entered after this Consultation.

Ordered Captain Kirwan to get the *Hector* ready for to proceed to Bombay, and

Ordered public notice to be given that the *Hector* will be despatched next month, and will receive on board any freight that may offer.

Messrs. Coates and Ellis lay before the Board the account current of Metri's Chunam.

Ordered it to be entered after this Consultation.

The Madeira wine per *Oxford* is being landed.

Ordered it to be surveyed, &c.

Agreed that we sell it at public outcry this day fortnight.

James Valicourt, Sheriff, sent in his note for the allowance due to him and his officers for the month of September, which amounting to C. Rs. 110.

Agreed that the President do pay the same.

Cancelled the following notes and renewed them with interest thereon for a year:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Jonathan Ranson's dated 20th September 1751 for	1,090	0	0
Interest for a year is	98	1	6
	1,188	1	6
Goarchurn's dated 27th September 1751 for	41,440	15	0
Interest for a year	3,729	11	0
	45,170	10	0
Messrs. Manningham and Frankland's account of Cornelius Goodwin dated 18th September 1751, for	21,101	9	9
Interest for a year	1,899	2	3
	23,000	12	0
Messrs. Fytche and Burrow's account James Barton's children, James and Elizabeth, dated 21st September 1751, for Principal	3,576	14	9
Interest for a year is	321	14	9
	3,898	13	6
Bunseram Metre's note dated 1st September for	4,573	2	0
Interest for a year is	411	9	3
	4,984	11	3
Charles Manningham, Esq., account William Davis, Esq., dated the 3rd September 1751 for	2,921	3	3
Interest for a year is	262	14	6
	3,184	1	9

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to pay Mr. Holwell the balance of his note dated 18th September 1751, the said note being now cancelled, *viz.*:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
For Principal	1,090	0	0
Interest for 9 months 28 days	82	0	6
	1,172	0	6
Deduct endorsed off	1,090	0	0
Paid out of the Treasury	82	0	6

It appearing to us that some voyages have been set on foot from hence to the different parts of India and passes obtained under English names when the property has at the same time chiefly appertained to the Black Merchants, inhabitants of this place, and as a proceeding of this nature may involve us with the country government by depriving them of their duties payable by the Natives who carry on any trade exclusive of the Hon'ble Company's investment. In order therefore to prevent abuses of this kind in future—

Resolved that every person who applies for a pass do declare to the Board on oath, who are the true concerned, and in what proportions, that it may be certified whether the same is the property of the English gentleman.

The Jemindar delivers in the account Revenues for the month of April, the gross amount thereof being C. Rs. 9,729-7-9—

Particulars, *viz.* :—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Ground-rent	1,917	2	0
Gain on cowries	75	1	3
Weavers' ground-rent	110	8	0
Duties on piece-goods	275	3	6
Sales of boats	35	7	6
Sales of houses	256	13	9
Duties on pottahs	70	13	3
Peons' fees	136	2	9
Recovery of debts	13	10	0
Marriages	131	3	6
Ground overplus	9	13	0
Sale of slaves	10	10	3
Fines	917	9	3
Goaloes	4	6	0
Rice for exportation	1,106	2	0
Sellamy of bricks	379	2	6
Marks on dry and wet measures	130	0	0
Duties on chunam and timbers	100	0	0
Duties on liquor imported	37	4	0
Servants' wages forfeited	223	0	0
Monday Bazar	1,000	13	3
Iron, stone, sugar, ghee, &c.	175	0	0
Verdure fish-pots, firewood	216	10	6
Touldary on rice, wheat, gram, &c.	158	5	0
Tobacco	12	8	0
Caulkers	43	12	0
Duty on salt	348	5	3
Market places	429	0	3
Soba Bazar	116	10	6
Dobaparra Bazar	39	2	0
Hautculla "	14	12	0
Charles "	15	0	0
Baug "	43	12	0
New "	287	8	0
Sam "	100	0	0
Bagum "	75	7	6
Gastholla "	25	0	0
John Nagore "	13	15	0
Roads	35	13	3
Glass-makers	45	13	6
Bang shops	143	12	0
John Bazar	55	3	0
Barthola "	55	3	6
Santose "	20	0	0
Loll "	154	2	6
Burthened oxen	41	12	0
Vermillion	18	12	0
Cotton-beaters	2	8	0
Squibs	3	8	0
Hogs butchery	1	1	6
Ferry boats	14	0	0
Braminies	2	5	0
Blanket-makers	0	12	0
Conjee shops	0	12	0
Dammer and oakum	56	10	6
Carried over	9,707	10	6

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Brought over	9,707	10	6
Old iron. empty cattys	5	0	0
Chestmakers	6	0	0
Sindoor	10	13	3
	9,729	7	9
Deduct Charges	2,481	9	3
Pd. into Treasury	7,247	14	6

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, and to be delivered the Accomptant the amount thereof Current Rs. 7,247-14-6 being paid into the Treasury.

The several entries necessary for closing and ballancing the general books of this presidency being made in the Treasury account for April.

Ordered the Commitee of Treasury to close the account for April, as also those for May, June, July, August, and September.

Granted a note of this date to Captain William Hutchinson for C.Rs. 2,687-13-9, that sum being endorsed off Mr. Dawson's note dated the 4th January 1751-52 for C.Rs. 2,851-7-0.

Granted a note to Bridjooram dated the 28th September for C.Rs. 1,605; that sum being transferred from Jugutram Dutt's account.

Granted a note to Mr. Charles Hampton of this date for C.Rs. 1,900 that sum being accounted for as follows:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Endorsed off Mr. Drake's note dated 7th June 1752 for Principal C.Rs. 3,706-0-6	950	8	3
Endorsed off Mr. Drake's note dated 11th June for C.Rs. 2,817-13-0	449	7	9
Transferred to Paunchu Cotmah's account	500	0	0
	1,900	0	0

Granted a note to Messrs. Drake and Manningham on account of William Davis, Esq., dated the 30th September, for C. Rs. 6,954-3-3; Captain Pinson's note dated the 19th ultimo being cancelled to make good that sum, *viz.*:—

	C.Rs.	a.	p.
For Principal	7,000	0	0
Interest for a year	630	0	0
	7,630	0	0
Deduct endorsed off	675	12	9
	6,954	3	3

Granted a note of this date to Goarchurn for C .Rs. 1,000. Omichund's account being debited for that sum.

Granted a note to Mrs. Jane Douglass and Messrs. Manningham and Frankland on account of Mrs. Elizabeth Thorpe for Rs. 13,597-12-9 to account for which a note in the name of Mrs. Jane Goring, Messrs. Manningham and Findlay, dated the 25th September 1751, and was now cancelled, *viz.*:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
For Principal	12,475	0	9
Interest for a year is	1,122	12	0
	13,597	12	9

Granted a note to Mrs. Jane Douglass and Messrs., Manningham and Frankland on account of Mrs. Elizabeth Thorpe for C. Rs. 3,559-15-0; a note in the name of Mrs. Goring, Messrs. Manningham and Frankland on account of Elizabeth Thorpe dated the 4th October being cancelled for the amount, *viz.* :—

	C.Rs.	a.	p.
For Principal	3,266	0	0
Interst for a year is	293	15	0
	3,559	15	0

Granted a note to Mrs. Jane Douglass and Messrs. Manningham and Frankland on account of Mrs. Elizabeth Thorpe for Current Rs. 6,367-5-9, dated the 18th ultimo; a note in the name of Mrs. Goring, Messrs. Manningham and Findlay on account of Elizabeth Thorpe being cancelled to make good that sum, *viz.*:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
For Principal	5,841	10	0
Interest for a year is	525	11	9
	6,367	5	9

Ordered the Warehouse-keeper to deliver out goods bot at outcry to the amount of C. Rs. 12,148-4-3; that sum being accounted for as follows:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Transferred from Omichund's account	8,337	6	9
Do. from Radoo Dutt's	2,145	8	9
Cancelled Mr. Findlay's note, dated the 18th June 1751—			
For Principal	1,091	1	6
Interest for 1 year 3 months and 10 days is	125	7	6
	1,216	9	0
Paid into the Treasury	448	11	9
	12,148	4	3

Ordered the Storekeeper to deliver out iron to the amount of Current Rs. 1,305-13-6, the following accounts being debited for that sum:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Radamohan Bysack's	500	0	0
Killaram Roy's	805	13	6
	1,305	13	6

Captain Hutchinson sent in a letter to the Board to acquaint them that the demurrage of the *Godolphin* will commence the 22nd instant.

Ordered it to be entered after this Consultation.

The Buxey delivers in the charges general for the month of August, with the vouchers for the several disbursements therein.

Ordered them to lay on the table for examination.

ROGER DRAKE, JNR.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHD. BECHER.
WILM. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
T. Z. HOLWELL.

To—The Hon'ble Roger Drake, Esq., *President and Governor, &c., in Council of Fort William.*

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,—Being in want of demurrage for the *Hector*, I humbly request your honour, &c., will order her Charter party. Redwood to be laden on board her.

I am with respect,

Fort William,
The 9th October 1752.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

Your obedient humble Servant,

STEPHEN KIRMAN.

Dr. *Cr.*

The Hon'ble Company's Chunam from 6th February to the 31st July.

	Cockle shell.	Crystal shell.
To what received Mds.	18,578–30	11,387–20

	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
February, 20 days—						
2 Banians—wages at Rs. 20 p. m. is	13	5	6			
4 Weighmen „ at „ 2-8 „ is	6	11	0			
12 Cooleys „ at „ 2-8 „ is	20	1	0			
10 Peons „ at „ 2-8 „ is	16	11	6			
Oyl	2	14	0			
10 Baskets „	0	10	0			
4 Codallys	5	0	0			
				65	5	0
March—						
2 Banians—wages . . .	20	0	0			
4 Weighmen „ at Rs. 2-8 p. m.	10	0	0			
12 Cooleys „ at „ 2-8 „	30	0	0			
10 Peons „ at „ 2-8 „	25	0	0			
Oyl	4	5	0			
				89	5	0
April—						
2 Banians—wages . . .	20	0	0			
4 Weighmen . . .	10	0	0			
12 Cooleys . . .	30	0	0			
10 Peons . . .	25	0	0			
Oyl . . .	4	5	0			
10 Baskets . . .	0	10	0			
				89	15	0
May—						
2 Banians—wages . . .	20	0	0			
4 Weighmen . . .	10	0	0			
12 Cooleys . . .	30	0	0			
10 Peons . . .	25	0	0			
Oyl . . .	4	5	0			
				89	5	0
June—						
2 Banians—wages . . .	20	0	0			
4 Weighmen . . .	10	0	0			
12 Cooleys . . .	30	0	0			
10 Peons . . .	25	0	0			
Oyl . . .	4	5	0			
10 Baskets . . .	0	10	0			
				89	15	0
July—						
2 Banians—wages . . .	20	0	0			
4 Weighmen . . .	10	0	0			
12 Cooleys . . .	30	0	0			
10 Peons . . .	25	0	0			
Oyl . . .	4	5	0			
				89	5	0
				513	2	0
Balance in our hands . .				820	6	0
C. Rs. .				1,333	8	0

	Mds.	s.	ch.	Mds.	s.	ch.
By what delivered the Buxey .	2,000	0	0			
By what sold at sundry times .	……			3,335	0	0
	2,000	0	0	3,335	0	0
Balance remaining .	16,578	30	0	8,052	20	0
	18,578	30	0	11,387	20	0

By what sold Mds. 3,335 at 40 ars per md.—C. Rs. 1,333 8 0

Errors Excepted.

P. THOMAS COALES.

WILLIAM ELLIS.

Calcutta, 31st July 1752.

To—The Hon'ble Roger Drake, Esq., *President and Governor, &c., Council of Fort William.*

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,—This serves to advise your honour, &c., that the demurruge of the *Godolphin* commences the 22nd instant.

I am, with great respect,

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

Your obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM HUTCHINSON.

Fort William,
The 9th October 1752.

Exd.—T. Y.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 60 F. D.—2-7-91.—500.

PUBLIC PROCEEDINGS.

Fort William, the 11th October 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*
THE WORSHIPFUL EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.,
MESSIEURS MANNINGHAM,
BECHER,
FRANKLAND,
MACKETT,
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 9th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

The President lays before the Board a translate of two letters which he received from the Nabob, which being read.

Ordered them to be entered after this Consultation.

The Committee of Enquiry into the charge agst Govindram Metre lay their proceedings before the Board, and Mr. Holwell requests to minute the following remarks previous to the determination of the Board on the said proceedings. That Metre admits his first charge of the farms, the circumstances of which considered he thinks carries a tacit proof against him in everything else, as Metre therein confesses the grossest deceit and fraud, for if he is capable of insinuating to the Jemindar that so much is the utmost that he can get for the farms, and at the same time clandestinely takes them to himself at such price in the name of the third person, and then immediately farms them out again on his own account at an advance, some of them of even 100 per cent., he may conformable to the strictest equity be concluded capable of anything else.

That Metre has drawn a long and specious answer to the second charge, touching servants' wages converted to his own use, in which answer he gives a particular detail of the service and situation of each. On which Mr. Holwell remarks; that supposing Metre's own assertion and the evidence of Boncheram to have any credit given to them it proves no more than that the 17 Pykes were employed in Metre's service and paid annually by the Company; that they might be ready for their service possibly once in a twelve month; that any of them or the Buxeries were employed as spies is not probable, for where was the necessity of keeping that charge in the dark as the Company might have been debited on that account without specifying the names of the spies as is the case at present; but the whole of this detail is at once proved to be a chain of falsehoods and impositions on producing the cutchery cash-keeper's books where he finds eight Buxeries' wages and 5 rupees filched from the second's allowance of a ponsway[*] and 8 rupees the wages of Boncheram (which Metre says with Tilluckram's wages was paid to his Persian writer) has been actually paid by Metre's order to Mr. Kempe for these two years past. In regard to Kissengose, Mucketdram, Mundell, Barnasaseal Dutt, and Ramchurn Tagoor. Those of the oldest standers in the service of the cutchery declare they never knew these people engaged in any service for the Company, and thirteen more the Committee is sensible, were ready to prove the same, to which Mr. Holwell further remarks that neither of them appeared to pay him the usual salam[†], or receive the usual present on his taking the seat in the cutchery, which they would certainly have done had they been servants of the office. On the whole Mr. Holwell sees no reason to recede from this charge against Metre and must still insist on the behalf of the Company that it is consistent both with common sense and common equity to conclude this fraud in the servants' monthly pay has been continued in one shape or another from the period of his having power to commit it. Metre observes to the Committee that there is a balance due on account of the bang, caulkers and tobacco farmers of Rs. 1,000, which he must make good. On which Mr. Holwell observes that this confession would never have escaped him had he not known the deficiency of currency, Rs. 7,219, on the farms had been laid before the President the day before. That Metre should be obliged to pay the money embezzled by Cosseram Metre Mr. Holwell thinks cannot be esteemed a hardship as he stands equally accountable for any embezzlements of his late head writer Diaram Ghose, for it was strictly his duty to see all monies collected paid into the Podar's hands otherwise he knows not how he received 111 rupees a month from the Company. Touching the fine levied from Moideb, and said to be paid Mr. Kooper, Mr. Holwell remarks that he does not here enter into a vindication of Mr. Kooper further than to say it is a very easy matter for Metre to throw dirt on a gentleman who is not here to justify himself, but that as the affair relates to Rs. 500 which was strictly the Company's due he thinks it incumbent on him to point out contradictions in Metre's defence, as he still thinks him accountable to the Company for that sum, for the following reasons: First, the head Pyke's evidence is flat against Mr. Kooper's having received this money knowing that it was levied: second, the evidence of Bulramped shows he was tampered with by Diaram Ghose to assert this money was paid to Mr. Kooper: thirdly, Diaram Ghose confesses he told Mr. Holwell he kept no account of that Rs. 500 paid to Mr. Kooper, and swears he keeps no accounts of such fines at all, whereas an account under the title of a lottery of such fines under his own hand is produced. Therefore what truth is there in any part of this man's evidence? Fourthly, in Sustedass' account in the cash keeper's books the Rs. 2,000 which stands to Mr. Kooper's name in the lottery book appears here likewise, and appears to be brought from other cutchery books produced, and his account of Sustedass is from March to October, and Moideb's house appears to be sold the first of May. Now Gungaram the packer's fine appears in this account, and why not Moideb's, if it had been paid to Mr. Kooper for Diaram Ghose, Rs. 200 of that fine was paid to the cash-keeper amongst other sums. Fifthly, as Gungaram's fine is particularized in the cash-keeper's books, would not Moideb's likewise appear there if ever any part of it passed through his hands to Mr. Kooper, or to his head banian Sustedass on his account. Metre objects to the cash-keeper's book as not being the cutchery book, which he knows to be utterly false, as that book is kept nowhere but in the cutchery and particularly contains the account of wages paid to all the servants of the cutchery and other accounts relative to the office. Mr. Holwell does not say it may not contain the cash-keeper's own accounts, but it happens very unlucky for Metre, that the very account he pitched upon to prove this, points out another of his frauds, *viz.*, the account of Monick-Soor, in whose name the Company has been defrauded by about Rs. 9 per month from Rs. 1746 to 1749, Rs. 312-15 paid to his father Churn Soor, and he thinks he will scarcely be hardy enough to say this man was ever in the service of the Company. But to return to Gungaram's fine, Mr. Holwell begs leave to give the Board his conception of those transactions, and if they appear to them in the light it does to him, it will appear likewise very probable Mr. Kooper might receive the Rs. 2,000 entered in the lottery book without knowing by what iniquitous means it was collected. It is universally known that from Mr. Kooper's first entrance in the office he abridged the power of Metre, who we may reasonably suppose would neglect no means of regaining his influence; a present he judged the readiest way, but could not prevail on himself to give it out of his own pocket, therefore ways and means must be thought of. Omichand's silk was stole luckily at this juncture, and Gungaram is fined Rs. 400, which, instead of being brought to the credit of the Company, appears to be converted to this purpose, and Basdeb Coyal is said to be fleeced of a double dussatary* amounting to Rs. 600 more, but without the other Rs. 1,000 the present will not be worth the jemindar's acceptance, therefore the poor servants in the cutchery must be taxed under the head of a lottery in the sum of Rs. 25 each. Rs. 1,360 appears to be collected in this shameful way, a thousand whereof makes up the present of Rs. 2,000 paid to Mr. Kooper, and the Rs. 360 remaining is put into Metre's pocket. Mr. Kooper, it is universally known, was totally out of his senses about the beginning of May and for some time before; that he could neither bear the sight or name of Govindram Metre, therefore how improbable it is he should receive Moideb's fine; that Metre complained to Mr. Dawson Mr. Holwell admits, but at the same time begs leave to observe that it was greatly in Metre's power to trump up any charge of that kind, and give it a specious colouring by a thousand evidences that were then at his devotion; and that he did not want resentment against Mr. Kooper at that juncture is very well known to every member of this Board. On the whole Mr. Holwell submits these circumstances to their candid determination.

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[*] Ponsway, properly Pansway, *H.* A boat for passengers or goods, varying in burthen, having a tiled roof of bambu, mats, and thatch over the aft portion, usually rowed by two or four men, but carrying a mast and two sails; the most frequent boat in use in the Calcutta river.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

[†] Salam, *H.* Peace, safety; salutation (implying a wish for a person's safety and health) used as a civil term on meeting on parting, as Sáhab Salám; and more especially, in the Arabic exchange of compliments Salám Âli kum, peace be with you; Âli Kum Salám, wish you be peace.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

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* Dussatary, properly Dastúr í, *H*, Dasturí, *Beng.*—A fee, a perquisite, a commission; especially a fee claimed by cashiers and servants on articles purchased or on payments made.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

Read the Proceedings of the Committee relative to the farms and bazars, by Metre for the years 1749, 1750, and 1751, and on taking the same under consideration, Mr. Holwell requested the previous question to be put, whether Metre was from the nature of his office in trust in behalf of the Company, when Mr. Mackett gave it as his opinion that the jemindar is chiefly and almost solely in trust for the Company and Metre as a servant under him.

Mr. Frankland looks upon the jemindar as the sole person in trust.

Mr. Becher is of the same opinion as Mr. Frankland.

Mr. Maningham looks upon him in trust for the Company subordinate to the jemindar.

Mr. Cruttenden is of opinion that the trust of the office is reposed in the jemindar and he looked upon Metre no more than a servant under him.

The President looks upon Metre to have been entrusted from the nature of his office with the management of the whole revenues.

The majority of the Board is of opinion that Metre is not in trust to the Company from the nature of his office. Mr. Cruttenden in consequence of Mr. Holwell's question requests the opinion of the Board whether Metre had a right to be a purchaser with others or not. Mr. Mackett is of opinion that he, as well as the jemindar and every other man in the settlement, has a right.

Mr. Frankland says that it appears from the Proceedings of the Committee that those farms were sold with the knowledge of the Governor, and jemindar for the time being, and as Metre was never forbidden to purchase he is of opinion that Metre had a right with their consent.

Mr. Becher is of the same opinion as Mr. Frankland. Mr. Maningham is of opinion that he had an equal right with other purchasers, it having been made known to the Governor and jemindar and previous notice being likewise given of the sale. Mr. Cruttenden thinks he had a right.

The President is of opinion he had a right to purchase publicly, but not in a secret manner.

Mr. McGuire, Secretary, acquaints the Board that on his waiting upon Mr. Dawson by their order to know if Metre acquainted him of the time for selling those farms and of the prices he could get for them before the time of sale, Mr. Dawson acquainted him he had received such intelligence from Metre as likewise from the jemindar.

The majority being of opinion that Metre had a right to purchase, the President put the following question:—

Whether Metre, by his own confession of having made above the profit of the farms as specified by Mr. Holwell for the years 1749, 1750, and 1751 is not answerable to the Hon'ble Company with interest calculated thereon from the end of those years.

Mr. Mackett is of opinion as it does not appear that Metre intimidated any person from purchasing the farms, and that during those three years he farmed them, it was at an advance price, and as there has been no order that Metre should not be as free to purchase as any other person, and Metre having by one buzar he does not think him accountable for the gains on the others.

Mr. Frankland is of the same opinion for the foregoing reasons, as it does not appear he purchased them secretly, and it being the opinion of the Board that he had a right to purchase, or be concerned.

Mr. Becher for the same reasons is of the same opinion.

Mr. Manningham can only answer this question by the following representation. During the time he was in the office of jemindar only one farm fell in to be renewed or re-sold. Govindram Metre duly apprized him of this above one month before the expiration of the old pottah or contract. Mr. Manningham likewise acquainted Mr. Dawson, the then Governor therewith, as did also Govindram Metre; afterwards public notice of a month was given by Mr. Manningham as jemindar that the lease of the said farm would be renewed and sold to the best bidder. He likewise endeavoured publicly and privately himself as well as by his servants to procure bidders for the same for the ensuing year at an advance price.

The sum it sold for the last year being Rs. 3,000 several persons offered, merchants and others, from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 3,500, but not one would acquiesce to have the contract in his own name. A short time before the lease had expired a banian offered Rs. 4,000, upon which Mr. Manningham acquainted Metre that such a sum was offered, but in consideration that the last farmer might have outstanding debts he acquiesced with his having the option of the farm for Rs. 4,000, that being the highest offer he could obtain, at the same time it being known to Mr. Manningham that Metre in the name of another was the real farmer the preceding season. He accordingly agreed to give Rs. 4,000 for the said farm this season, which Mr. Manningham consented to and acquainted Mr. Dawson therewith, thinking it an advantageous advance on behalf of the Company, and that no higher purchaser offered, notwithstanding the utmost pains he took for the space of six weeks, and as in this instance Metre was the farmer and known to be such both to the Governor and jemindar, though in another person's name, Mr. Manningham is therefore of opinion (on this principle that the Governor and jemindar were acquainted therewith) that Metre is not accountable for the advance or gain on those farms let by him to others, for whom he was security to the Company.

Mr. Cruttenden is of opinion, and that from his having served in the office of jemindar, as the sales of the farms were made at the public cutchery and of consequence free for every one to buy, and as there has been no order to his knowledge that did not entitle Metre to an equal right to purchase as well as any other, that he has a right to any advantage he may have made in purchasing the same, especially as it nowhere appears that he ever intimidated or prevented others from buying them.

The President says that through the course of the enquiry into Metre's management of the farms it appears to him that Metre has had the disposal thereof at such prices as he himself thought proper to limit by his artifice and dominion over the black inhabitants, so much that there has been a bare probability of any jemindar or other covenanted servant to have true knowledge of that branch of the revenues, whereby he was perfectly assured of making a profit. Therefore is of opinion he should immediately refund to the Company the gains made on the above three years' purchase, with interest thereon.

The majority is of opinion that Govindram Metre is not accountable for any gains or other advantages he made on the farms for those three years.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior*.

E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

C. MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

W. FRANKLAND.

W. MACKETT.

NABOB MUNSOOR AUL MALLICK'S perwanna, in reply to a letter wrote him by the President, that the Company's trade may flourish in these dominions, received the 26th September 1752.

You are a great man and that greatness becomes you, the head of all merchants and the standard of friendship Roger Drake, President to the English Company, may health attend you.

I have received your petition, its contents I have perused, and know I am always with the utmost willingness ready to befriend you and your business, and what business may lay in my presence here, advise me and I will execute it very well.

NABOB ALLIVERDE CAWN's perwanna arrived the 8th October 1752.

Of all merchants the greatest and the picture of friendship Mr. Drake, Governor of the English Company, whom God preserve.

By the favour of the Almighty the bright eyes and soul of Nabob Munsoor Au Mullick Bahawdur arrived at Muxadavad the 24th Zecandur son paunch. Of your friendship, praises, presents and going to meet him he has told me a great deal about, so much that I cannot express it. This news I have likewise received from Fuckerrat Tewja. I am extremely pleased and delighted with you and a thousand thousand times remain sensible of it, and in return by the grace of God the Company's business will be very favourable too.

Fort William, the 16th October 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, Esq., *President.*
THE WORSHIPFUL EDWARD H. CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.,
MESSIEURS BECHER,
MANNINGHAM,
FRANKLAND,
MACKETT,
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultations of the 11th and 14th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

Yesterday we received a letter from William Watts, Esq., Chief, &c., and Council at Cossimbazar, dated the 10th October, advising of the safe arrival of the treasure sent them under the care of Ensign Muir, of a deficiency of two Madras rupees in the treasure sent up with Mr. Watts. That they hope to despatch to us in the beginning of November, 300 bales of silk, 20 chattaks of silk piece goods, and upwards of 100 bales of gurrahs. That their Vakil Kissendeb acquaints them that the Durbar has received advice from Delhi that the King is confined to his bed, and that the Vazeer Munsoor Ally Cawn proposes fixing another on the throne in a day or two.

This morning we received a letter from Nich^{s}. Clerimbault, Esq., Chief &c. and Council at Dacca dated the 9th instant acknowledging the receipt of the supplies per *Charles* Sloop and *Dacca* Pinnace, out of which they propose to pay the Seats one lack of Sicca rupees, and that they sold the bullion at 206 sicca rupees for 240 sicca weight.

Ordered the Secretary to transmit to Captain Carter, Commander of the *Chesterfield*, copy of the Hon'ble Company's standing orders relative to Europe Commanders.

Ordered Captain Carter to follow all orders he may receive from Charles Manningham and Richard Becher, Esq., import warehouse-keepers for loading and unloading his ship.

Ordered Mr. William Rider to search the *Chesterfield* for private trade and Captain Carter to assist him therein. Agreed to dispose of the treasure per *Chesterfield* when it arrives as follows:—

To pay the merchants the amount of their 85 per cent;

To pay Omichund eight chests of Madras rupees;

To send thirty chests of Madras rupees to Cossimbazar and thirty chests to Dacca, and

Ordered the Buxee to provide boats and sloops to convey the foregoing treasure to the subordinates.

Captain Polier being arrived in town was asked how Captain Carter treated him. He replied extremely well and that the Surgeon took good care of his people.

Captain William Hutchinson sent in a letter to the Board requesting a survey on the *Godophin's* bottom.

Ordered the Master Attendant to comply therewith and report her condition to the Board in writing.

The Cooper sent in his report survey of the Madeira wine received this year per ship *Oxford.*

Ordered it to be entered after this Consultation.

Cancelled the following notes and renewed them with interest thereon for a year, *viz.*:—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Mr. Frankland's dated the 10th August 1751, for C. rupees	9,098	13	3
Interest for a year is .	818	14	3
C. Rs. .	9,917	11	6
Mr. Thomas Cook's on account Miss John Anna Forster, dated the 1st October 1751, for current rupees . .	1,142	0	9
Interest for a year is .	102	12	6
C. Rs. .	1,244	13	3

Huzzera Mull attending the Board acquaints us that he cannot accept the price we offered him for the Patna goods, nor less than the prices he offered them at. That he will deliver in his cloth on the musters of 1733, and at that time there was a great difference in the quality of the cloth to what it was in 1746; and that the cloth appears cheap by our invoices as the charges of the factory are not therein inserted which has been 35 or 40 per cent. on our investments, deducting the profit made on the bullion and broad cloth sent from hence at the Europe invoice prices, and that the charges to merchants that trade to and from Patna is not less on account of the exorbitancies of the chowkeys, the duty they pay and the extortions of the Government, and at this time Ely rupees are 12 per cent. better than current, as siccas are not now obtained under 111½ Arcot and 109½ Madras rupees, and that if we delay contracting the cloth will be sent to Delhi, and that the money was advanced a year before when the Company traded to Patna.

Agreed to examine and compare the musters of 1733 with those of 1746 and give him an answer next Council day.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHD. BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
T. Z. HOLWELL.

To—The HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council of Fort William.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—Pursuant to Your Honour's, &c., order I have carefully surveyed the Madeira wine as it was landed from on board the Hon'ble

Company's ship *Oxford*, containing 150 pipes, one of which is quite empty, the rest are but in indifferent good order. The wine in my humble opinion is sound for the most part; the leakage being, as I compute, will take about twelve pipes to fill up.

I am with respect,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,

Your most obedient humble servant,

FORT WILLIAM,
16th October 1752.

JAMES McPHERSON,
Cooper.

Fort William, the 19th October 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*
THE WORSHIPFUL EDWARD H. CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.
MESSIEURS MANNINGHAM,
BECHER,
FRANKLAND,
MACKETT,
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 16th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

This being the day appointed for the sale of the Hon'ble Company's woollen goods and having put up the following goods at the usual advance and finding no bidders, we secured it for our Hon'ble Masters' interest to put them up at the following prices, rather than let them lie by in their godowns, whereby they suffer a loss of interest.

Besides they have strenuously recommended to us the sales of their woollen goods, *viz*:

	Rs.		Rs.
Broadcloth, ordinary, Popinjay @	45	being first tried at	48
Perpets, ordinary, red @ . .	17	being first tried at	18

And though we tried all the other sorts of Perpets under the usual advance yet as no bidders offered we were obliged to defer the sale.

Agreed that we put up the copper as follows, *viz.*:

	Rs.			
That for Battery	38	8	0	per maund.
That for Brass	39	0	0	„
Fine Copper	55	0	0	„

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
T. Z. HOLWELL.

Fort William, the 23rd October 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*
THE WORSHIPFUL EDWARD H. CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.
MESSIEURS MANNINGHAM,
BECHER,
FRANKLAND,
MACKETT,
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 19th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

Received a letter from the gentlemen at Dacca, dated the 17th October, apprehending that the removing of Jugdea factory to Mutlubgunge, which is within a day's journey of Dacca and one of the Dacca aurungs, must greatly prejudice and obstruct their investment, make the goods much dearer and expose the Hon'ble Company to a very great additional and unnecessary charge; that as Mutlubgunge is so considerably distant from Jugdea and the other Baftae aurungs, they can as easily provide those goods from Dacca as any set of gentlemen could do from Mutlubgunge, and with this advantage at a very trifling charge without risquing the extortions of a Durbar, who no doubt will make ample use of this novelty and with the less moderation as they are informed Chaundpore and of course Mutlubgunge are immediately under Hajee Hossein their Taut* Canna† Droga, one of the most rapacious of their Durbar.

That among other inconveniences which would attend settling this new factory, it would occasion a rise in the price of cloth provided for the Company at Dacca, as they have experienzed within these few years from a French gentleman having settled at Serampore near Chandpore, which has occasioned a considerable advance in the price of dimities and other cloths purchased at that and the neighbouring aurungs, and they beg leave to add it would render Dacca factory more serviceable for the Company to permit them to buy up the Chandpore Cossaes at present provided by the Calcutta merchants by means of their Gomastahs residing at Mutlubgunge. That Mr. Clerimbault sent last year some of this cloth to Mr. Dawson, who then wrote him he would propose it to be put in the next list of investment, but they have not received any orders concerning it. Having thus represented how they apprehended that factory would be affected by the settling another so near it, they beg leave to add that in June they received our orders to assist Mr. Baillie in procuring for him a substantial deloll, when after due consideration with Mr. Baillie, who arrived there in July, they recommended Permanund Deloll, which man acquainted them that the Dacca delolls had made an application to Muxadavad for a perwanna to have the cloth business of Jugdea and all the Dacca aurungs in their own hands. He agreed to wait the event of their application and returned to Jugdea, since which they have not had any public advice on this subject. That the delolls have since obtained from Muxadavad the perwanna they desired, and Mr. Clerimbault having sent for Permanund and Samsundey, two of their principal delolls, the former declared his willingness to transact as a deloll the cloth business of Jugdea at Cullinda, Ramnaut Colly, or any other of the Dacca aurungs, of which they will advise the gentlemen at Jugdea. That in case it should be necessary to remove Jugdea factory they beg leave to inform us that Cullinda is a considerable mart for baftaes, about five hours distance from Jugdea, and situated in the midst of their cloth aurungs. That it was first mentioned and approved of by Mr. Baillie when there, and has the advantage of being under Jugut Seat, who they are persuaded would encourage them as much as in his power in the settling a factory there;

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* Taut, properly Tat, H. Canvas, Sackcloth.

† Canna, properly Khana, Khánâ, Beng. and Mal. A house, a dwelling, a place.

that they beg leave to mention also Ramnaut Colly, which is near Jugdea and the place where a great part of their kumhums and baftas (the only cloths peculiar to that part of the countrey) are produced, and has the advantage of being so situated as to clear the risque of the bores.

That agreeable to our orders they will send us 100 bales towards the latter end of the month.

Received a letter from the gentlemen at Jugdea acknowledging the receipt of the eight chests of Arcot rupees and enclosure and invoice of cloth despatched the 2nd October on the Hon'ble Company's account.

The President wanting money to supply the cash—

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to advance him forty-seven thousand Arcot rupees (47,000).

The Accomptant brings in the account salary due to the Hon'ble Company's covenanted servants for six months amounting to C. Rs. 7,024-1-3—

Agreed that the President do pay the same, &c.

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, and to be entered after this Consultation.

The Buxey requesting money to defray the expenses of the factory—

Agreed that the President do advance him twenty thousand Arcot rupees (A. Rs. 20,000).

The Master Attendant's account of the Hon'ble Company's Marine for September having been duly examined, and there being a balance of C. Rs. 3,193-7-9 due to him—

Agreed that the President do pay the same and ordered the account to pass, errors excepted, and to be delivered to the accomptant.

Captain Polier sent in a muster roll of his men who came on the *Chesterfield* for the months of September and October, which amounting to M. Rs. 1,754-5-3—

Agreed that the President do pay the same.

The Storekeeper delivers in his account for the months of July and August the balance whereof C.Rs. 919-0-6 he pays into the treasury—

Ordered the Accomptant to examine them.

The Millitary Store-keeper delivers in his account for the month of September—

Ordered the Accomptant to examine it.

The import warehouse-keeper reports to the Board that he has weighed off and surveyed the treasure imported per ship *Chesterfield*, and that it turns out agreeable to invoice.

The President lays before the Board a list of the presents to the Nabob and chief Durbar officers—

Ordered it to be entered after this Consultation and agreed that he do pay the amount of what was not taken out of the import warehouse being C. Rs. 15,560-3-3 out of the cash.

Captains Hindman and Kirman sent in a letter requesting their charter party Petre to be laden on board their respective ships—

Ordered the warehouse-keeper to comply with their requests and their letter to be entered after this Consultation.

The Buxey acquaints the Board that he has for some time past been endeavouring to contract for a quantity of large bricks wanted for the use and service of the Hon'ble Company; and having reduced the prices as low as he possibly can he requests the Board to call in the people now in waiting and ready to enter into contract for the quantity wanted on a muster of 9 inches in length, 3½ in breadth, and 2¼ thick at Rs. 3-10 per mile, to be delivered by the 30th November which being approved by Mr. Plaisted—

Agreed to contract accordingly and permit the Buxey to advance 12,500 current rupees on that account. Mr. Mackett, Storekeeper, pays into the treasury C. Rs. 7,225-6-6 on account of iron sold at outcry.

The Boats for conveying the treasure to Cossimbazar being ready—

Ordered the Committee of Treasure to take the treasure on board and despatch them under the care of Ensign Hayes and twenty-five men; and

Agreed that we write to the gentlemen at Cossimbazar to enclose the manjees' receipts.

The woollen goods per *Admiral Vernon* being landed—

Ordered the ware-house keepers to survey them in the presence of Captain Cook and deliver in their report in writing to the Board.

The charges, general, for the month of August having been carefully examined with the vouchers for the several disbursements therein particulars, *viz.*—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Charges, general	2,522	3	3
Charges, diet	1,744	0	0
Charges, reparation	1,795	8	3
Pilots' wages and seamen in monthly pay	2,355	2	6
Charges, cattle	279	11	3
Servants' wages in monthly pay	882	13	3
Charges, merchandize	5,270	10	0
Durbar charges	227	11	9
Factor's provisions	15	6	6
Petty stores	175	8	0
Charges, *Brilliant Snow*	2,904	3	3
Charges, *Ship Colechester*	1,378	7	6
Charges, Millitary	774	14	3
	20,326	3	9

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, and to be delivered to the Accomptant.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*

E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

C. MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

W. FRANKLAND.

W. MACKETT.

T. Z. HOLWELL.

Fort William, the 27th October 1752.

At a Consultation, Present :

The Hon'ble Roger Drake, Esq., *President.*

The Worshipful Edward H. Cruttenden.

Messrs. Manningham,
Becher,
Frankland,
Mackett,
Holwell.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the table.

The Consultation of the 23rd being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

Yesterday we received a letter from William Watts, Esq., Chief, &c., and Council at Cossimbazar, dated the 22nd instant, advising that the merchants are very pressing to have their last year's balances paid off, which they say will be the means of their providing a good investment next year, and the Seats have sent them several messages to have their balances paid off there and at

Dacca, and promise when the accounts are once cleared to lend them what money they might have occasion for. Therefore they request us to send them a large supply of money to comply with those demands, having likewise several notes to pay amounting to near a lack of rupees. To send them also some gun-carriages agreeable to their letter and report of 25th September 1751. That they are in want of a pair of money scales, as also large scales. That one of their merchants Nimmosen having lost the following Company's notes for the balance due to him, *viz.*:—

	D. M. Rs.	a.	p.
One, dated the 23rd March 1751-52 for.	11,750	8	0
One do. 27th do. 1751-52 for.	8,179	3	3
One do. 9th April 1751-52 for.	9,215	8	0
One do. 1st May 1751-52 for.	7,721	6	9

has requested them to grant him new ones, and he would give an indemnification and security, which they desire our permission for.

The President delivers in the cash account for the month of September the balance whereof being C. Rs. 747-3-3 was found in the following specie:—

	M. Rs.	a.	p.	M. Rs.	a.	p.	C. Rs.	a	p.
	628	0	0						
Batta 10 per cent.	62	12	9						
				690	12	9			
	A. Rs.	a.	p.						
	52	0	0						
Batta 8 per cent.	4	2	6						
				56	2	6			
Cowries				0	4	0			
							747	3	3

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, and to be entered after this Consultation.

The export warehouse keeper acquaints the Board that he sold a sloop belonging to Nianchund at publick outcry to Omichand for C. Rs. 3,320.

The President acquaints the Board that he has thought proper to confer an Ensign's Commission on Mr. George Polier.

The store-keeper lays before the Board an account of the damaged stores—

Agreed that we survey them on Monday next.

The store-keeper delivers in the account sales of iron and steel at publick outcry, the 26th instant, amounting to C. Rs. 25,512-8-0—

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, and to be entered after this Consultation.

The Master Attendant delivers in his survey report of the *Godolphin's* bottom which being read—

Ordered it to be entered after this Consultation.

Captain Hindman sent in a letter to the Board to request six hundred bags of saltpetre to be laden on board the *Wager* at half freight as he does not esteem his charter party kintledge sufficient dead weight. We now sent for Captain Hindman and told him we should comply with his request, reserving to ourselves the power of turning it into whole freight if we should hereafter have occasion to which he assenting—

Ordered the export warehouse-keeper to comply with his request and his letter to be entered after this Consultation.

Granted a note to Messrs. Drake and Manningham of this date for C. Rs. 5,346, account of George and Mary Tipping, the following notes being endorsed to make good that sum, *viz.*:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Mr. Holwell's, dated 20th August 1752 for .	2,186	0	6	2,186	0	6
Do. do. 25th September 1752 for .	2,844	15	3	2,844	15	3
Do. do. 11th January 1751-52 for.	411	2	6	314	15	3
				5,346	0	0

Granted a note to Samram, dated the 2nd instant, for C. Rs. 1,114.

Jugutramdut's account being debited for that amount.

Ordered the warehouse-keeper to deliver out goods bo^t at outcry to the amount of C. Rs. 7,407-6-6, that sum being made good as follows, *viz.*;—

Cancelled Goarchurn's note, dated 16th April 1752 for C. Rs.	5,074	14	6
Interest for six months is	228	6	0
	5,303	4	6
Paid into the Treasury	2,104	2	0
C. Rs.	7,407	6	6

Mr. Frankland acquaints the Board that he visited the hospital last month, where he found the Surgeons gave proper attendance, but observing the building much out of repair he desired Mr. Plaisted to survey it, and now lays his report thereof before the Board, which being read—

Ordered it to be entered after this Consultation, and resolved that it be repaired agreeable to the report, at a more healthy season of the year; and

Ordered Mr. Richard Becher to visit the Hospital the ensuing month.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*

E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

C. MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

W. FRANKLAND.

W. MACKETT.

T. Z. HOLWELL.

To—The HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, Esq., President and Governor, &c., and Council of Fort William.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,—Pursuant to Your Honour's, &c., order by your Secretary of the 16th instant I attended the careening of ship *Godolphin*, the Hon'ble Company's carpenter assisting, and having seen her keel out on both sides, found her false keel gone fore and aft, and her gripe quite knockt off, which being all well repaired it is my opinion her bottom is in all respects fitting to receive the Hon'ble Company's goods on board.

I am with due respect,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

Your obedient, humble Servant,

CALCUTTA,
The 27th October 1752.

JOHN PINSON,
Master Attendant.

To WILLIAM FRANKLAND, Esq.

SIR,—Having taken a survey of the Hospital do find the same much out of repair, notwithstanding that we have had continually people there at work of all kinds, such as bricklayers, cooleys, gurams, carpenters, &c., by which the same is a continual expence to the Hon'ble Company and to little purpose. I apprehend therefore, and do with submission give it to the Board as opinion that instead of this patchwork, if we set a number of people to work and give it a thorough repair at once it will be more for the Company's interest, and at the same time more conducive to the people's healths, and as the Doctors are of opinion that tucktaposts[*] for every room, made to take out at pleasure, will be a great preservative as all lower rooms are very damp, so I readily join in their judgment of the utility of them.

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[*] Tucktaposts, properly Tackht-posh, H. A covered stage or platform.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient, humble Servant,

Calcutta,
The 27th October 1752.

BARTHOLEMEW PLAISTED.

Fort William, the 30th October 1752.

At a Consultation, Present :

The Hon'ble Roger Drake, Esq., *President.*
The Worshipful Edward H. Cruttenden.
Messieurs Manningham,
Frankland,
Mackett,
Holwell.

Mr. Becher indisposed.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the table.

The Consultation of the 28th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

The 29th we received a letter from William Watts, Chief, &c., and Council at Cossimbazar, dated the 24th, advising that Myachund, one of their merchants, has tendered their interest note for the balance of their last year's account, and requests it may be transferred and paid off in Calcutta, and that as he is in no ways indebted to the Company, they apprehend a compliance with his request will oblige the Seats, he being related to them. This morning we received a letter from the gentlemen at Dacca, dated the 25th instant, enclosing invoice of 112 bales of cloth and a bundle of musters then despatched to us on the Hon'ble Company's account. That Mr. Luke Scrafton requests our permission to come to Calcutta for a short time to recover his health.

Having surveyed the damaged naval stores agreed to sell them at publick outcry this day fortnight, and ordered publick notice thereof to be given as usual. Captains Hindman and Kirman sent in letters to the Board to request a survey on their ships the *Wager* and *Hector* within-board.

Ordered the Master Attendant to comply therewith, and their letters to be entered after this Consultation.

Ordered the warehouse-keeper to lade one hundred and eighty tons more of saltpetre on board the *Hector*.

Ordered the Buxey to provide the mustard-seed oil indented for by the gentlemen at Bencoolen.

The Collector of the Consulage finding it absolutely necessary to watch the ghauts for preventing the exportation of goods without his knowledge to have another pansway and an additional number of peons.

Agreed that he be permitted to have another pansway and more peons.

Captain Stevens sent in a letter to the Board to acquaint them that the *Oxford* will enter upon demurrage the 23rd November next.

Cancelled the following notes and renewed the same, with interest thereon, for a year, *viz.:—*

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Mr. Holwell's dated the 15th October 1751 for . . .	7,806	14	6
Interest for a year is	702	10	0
C. Rs.	8,509	8	6
Narrahurry's dated 20th June 1751 for	3,120	0	0
Interest for a year is	280	12	9
C. Rs.	3,400	12	9

Granted a note to Captain Richard Drake, dated 25th instant, for Current Rs. 1,100, that sum being endorsed off Dianaut's note, dated 27th May, for principal C. Rs. 5,000.

Ordered the warehouse keeper to deliver out goods bought at outcry to the amount of C. Rs. 21,285-6-6, that sum being made good as follows, *viz.*:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Cancelled Goorchurn's note dated 23rd May for principal	8,637	15	0
Interest for 4 months 24 days is	310	15	7
C. Rs.	8,948	14	6

	C. Rs.	a.	p.			
Cancelled Samram's dated 27th May for principal	4,000	0	0			
Interest for 4 months 20 days is	140	0	0	4,140	0	0
Cancelled Anthonty Oleabearar's dated 1st July for	2,777	5	0			
Interest for 3 months 16 days is	73	1	0	2,850	6	0
Transferred from Praungoar Cotmak's account				1,800	0	0
Ditto from Gungabis Nomendrew's ditto				2,439	4	9
Cash paid into the Treasury				1,106	13	3
C. Rs.				21,285	6	6

The Committee of Treasury having closed their accounts for the month of April deliver in the same with their accounts for May, June, July, August, and September.

Ordered the said accounts to pass, errors excepted, and to be entered after this Consultation.

The charges, general, for the month of August having been examined with the vouchers for the several disbursements therein particulars, *viz.*:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Charges, general	2,522	3	3
Ditto diet	1,744	0	0
Ditto reparation	1,795	8	3
Pilots' wages and seamen in monthly pay	2,355	2	6
Charges, cattle	279	11	3
Servants' wages in monthly pay	882	13	3
Charges, merchandize	5,270	10	0
Durbar charges	227	11	9
Factor's provisions	15	6	6
Petty stores	175	8	0
Charges *Brilliant Snow*	2,904	3	3
Ditto ship *Colechester*	1,378	7	6
Charges, millitary	774	14	3
C. Rs.	20,326	3	9

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, and to be delivered to the Accomptant.

The import warehouse keeper delivers in the account of goods sold out by retail in the month of September—particulars, *viz.*:—

	Yards.	Hands.	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Broadcloth, fine	22	8	166	3	6
Ditto ordinary	6		13	8	0
Allapeen	7		14	0	0
White flannel	3		3	6	0
Velvet	40		348	7	0
Broadcloth superfine	55 pieces		5,197	8	0
Ditto ordinary	5 do.		250	0	0
Broad Perpect, fine	1 do.		50	0	0
Perpets, fine	5 do.		140	0	0
cloth	4 do.		334	0	0
Flannel shawls	3 do.		25	8	0
Carpets, small	9 do.		90	0	0
C. Rs.			6,632	8	6

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, and to be delivered to the Accomptant the amount thereof being paid into the Treasury.

Ordered Captain Thomas Brown to get the *Bombay Castle* in readiness for the Coast, to be despatched thither in December, as the gentlemen there have repeatedly requested us to send them that ship, and as it is agreeable to our Hon'ble Masters' intentions to favour Captain Brown; because it is yet uncertain whether we should keep any ship in the country besides the *Durrington*, in which case the injury to Captain Brown, we conceive, may be considerable, as waiting for the prospect of the country voyage might occasion his late dispatch the beginning of March; and as the President and Council of Fort St. George are no strangers to the Company's orders in behalf of Captain Brown, it is clear to us they would not have so particularly desired his return to them unless at his own request or assent at least, or for other particular reasons, especially as the *Delamar* was imported there before the dispatch of the *Chesterfield* by which they forwarded duplicate of their letter per *Bombay Castle* which we esteem a repeated request, and for which they had doubtless sufficient reasons to enforce our compliance; and as they have wrote us they shall have goods sufficient for to complete the loading of one ship directly from thence to Europe.

Agreed that we send the *Admiral Vernon* and *Chesterfield* to the Coast half laden in January.

Huzzermull was now sent for and by us acquainted that the Patna goods were very high-priced and on comparing inferior in quality to our old musters on which account—

Agreed that we defer giving him any further answer till the month of January, at which time we shall be ascertained whether we may have need of such goods to complete the tonnage of the shipping under despatch.

The treasure per *Bombay Castle* being arrived—

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to pay Omichand eight chests of Madras rupees, account his balance, and as there are two sloops in readiness to proceed to Dacca—

Ordered them to get ready 20 chests more and lade 25 chests of treasure, one of each of them to be dispatched under the care of a Sergeant Corporal and six men.

Having inspected the goods received from Jugdea, and finding the investment very bad in general but particularly the baftaes which are greatly inferior in quality to those received formerly, even last year; and upon carefully examining them having found a very great difference in the sorting. Resolved to send them some pieces for their inspection, likewise 925 pieces which are damaged and much torn, and—

Agreed to write to the gentlemen there to acquaint them with our remarks and enjoin in future a strict observance in the sorting of their cloth, and to be particularly careful in returning on the deloll's hands all such pieces as are not agreeable to muster; and that as we esteem the gentlemen at Dacca jointly with them to be the proper judges how far the removal of their factory may be conducive to the interest of the Hon'ble Company, we shall only add our former recommendations to them in taking all due care that it is not attended with more expense than proposed by Mr. Baillie, and that the Durbar does not make a plea thereof to exact money from our Hon'ble Masters.

Agreed that we likewise write to the gentlemen at Dacca to the same purpose, and direct them to act jointly with the gentlemen at Jugdea, in which case they will be the best judges how far it will be for the Hon'ble Company's interest to remove the factory from Jugdea, and as they esteem Cullinda a much more proper place than Mutlubgunge, we direct that they acquaint the gentlemen at Jugdea with their objections to their settling at the latter. That we are preparing to send them 50 chests of Arcot rupees to enable them not only to discharge our Hon'ble Masters' debt to the Seats but to complete their investment this year and be of use the ensuing season.

That we observe their remarks on the complaints made by the Hon'ble Company concerning the Alliballies which are not quite so satisfactory, as we send none of those sortments of goods to Europe but what they provide. That enclosed we send them an invoice of ten chests of treasure we sent them on the Dacca pinnace.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
T. Z. HOLWELL.

Fort William, the 2nd November 1752.
AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:
THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*
THE WORSHIPFUL EDWARD H. CRUTTENDEN.
MESSIEURS MANNINGHAM,
BECHER,
FRANKLAND,
MACKETT,
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 30th ultimo being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

The Millitary Paymaster delivers in the muster rolls of the men in garrison for the months of November and December signed by the officers.

The President certifies to the Board that he mustered the men and found the number agreeable to the rolls delivered in—

Agreed that the President do advance the Millitary Paymaster eighteen thousand six hundred Madras rupees (M. Rs. 18,600)—

Ordered the abstracts of the muster rolls to be entered after this Consultation.

The Register of the Mayor's Court sent in his account of the duty of 9 annas per folio by him collected on all law proceedings, likewise the account current of that Court for the last six months, the balance whereof due to him being C. Rs. 1,368-3—

Agreed that the President do pay the same out of the cash; and

Ordered the account current to pass, errors excepted, and to be entered after this Consultation.

The warehouse keepers report to the Board that they have surveyed the woollen goods imported per *Admiral Vernon* and find the damage to amount to C. Rs. 4,676-5-9—

Ordered them to demand the amount of the Captain and the report to be entered after this Consultation.

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Granted two notes, dated 15th October, one to Messieurs Manningham and Frankland for	2,975	3	6
The other to Mr. Walpole Eyre for	2,273	12	9
	5,249	0	3
A note in the names of Messieurs Manningham and Frankland account Walpole Eyre, Esq., dated the 4th October 1751, being cancelled to make good that account, *viz.*, for principal	4,815	9	9
Interest for a year	433	6	6
	5,249	0	3

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Granted a note, dated the 29th October to Mrs. Jane Douglass, Messieurs Manningham and Frankland for C. Rs. 13,597-12-9, Mrs. Elizabeth Thorpe's note, dated the 18th October 1751, being cancelled to make good that amount, *viz.*, for principal	12,475	0	9
Interest for a year	1,122	12	0
	13,597	12	9

Granted a note, dated 30th October, to Brijoonauth Bysack for C. Rs. 1,400, the following accounts being debited for that amount, *viz.* :—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Chiton Bysack's	1,200	0	0
Ramkissub's	200	0	0
	1,400	0	0
Cancelled Doarcadass's note, dated 23rd July, for	1,090	0	0
Interest for a year	98	1	6
And renewed the same for	1,188	1	6
Cancelled Messieurs Manningham and Frankland's note account Charles Floyer, Esq., dated the 4th October 1751, for	19,620	0	0
Interest for a year is	1,765	12	9
	21,385	12	9
Deduct endorsed off	3,192	5	9
And renewed the same, 15th October 1752, for	18,193	7	0

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to pay off C. Rs. 14,671-1-3 being a year's interest on a note in the name of Messrs. Eyles and Orme account the estate of Andrew Glen, dated the 15th October 1751, for principal C. Rs. 16,300-14-9, for which principal sum a new note was granted and the old note cancelled.

The President wanting money to supply the cash—

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to advance him eighteen thousand current rupees (C. Rs. 18,000).

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior*.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
T. Z. HOLWELL.

Fort William, the 6th November 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President*.
THE WORSHIPFUL EDWARD H. CRUTTENDEN.
MESSIEURS MANNINGHAM,
BECHER,
FRANKLAND,
MACKETT,
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 2nd instant being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

By the *Don Carlos*, one of our country ships, which imported here this morning, we received a letter from the Hon'ble Thomas Saunders, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council at Fort St. George, bearing date the 9th ultimo, advising that the *Colchester* was not then arrived. That in regard to deficiencies in the treasure they send us, that as it is a constant practice to weigh it off and pack it in the presence of the Captain or Purser, and no objection being made thereto, they think it but right they should be answerable for deficiencies. That their expense of gunpowder being very considerable, they request us to send them what we can spare by the first conveyance. Receipts of the import warehouse as delivered over by Mr. Cruttenden to Mr. Becher and for the store godown as delivered over by Mr. Becher to Mr. Mackett, were now brought in and signed in the presence of the Board—

Ordered them to be entered after this Consultation.

Mr. Holwell, Zemindar, lays before the Board the judicial proceedings of the zemindary with the Register of Fines for inspection. He likewise delivered in the account sales of the Hon'ble Company's bazars, markets, &c., at publick outcry, which amount to C. Rs. 60,199. We sent for Metre and asked him his reasons they sold for so great an advance now to what they did, into which he desiring permission to reply in writing we agreed thereto—

Ordered the account sales to be entered after this Consultation.

The export warehouse keeper acquaints the Board that Omichund having a mortgage bond on Annunchund, Nianchund's sloop, which he sold at public outcry for current Rs. 3,320-0-0, and Omichund producing the said bond to a larger amount, we acquiesced to his receiving the money.

Ordered the warehouse keeper to deliver out goods to the amount of C. Rs. 8,845-11-6, that sum being made good as follows:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Endorsed off Gourchurn's note, dated the 30th April .				7,112	2	9
Cancelled Bridjoo Mohun Bysack's note, dated the 30th October 1752, for .	1,400	0	0			
Interest for nine days is .	4	3	0			
				1,404	3	0
Paid into the Treasury				829	5	9
				8,845	11	6

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
T. Z. HOLWELL.

Fort William, the 9th November 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*
THE WORSHIPFUL EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.
MESSIEURS MANNINGHAM,
BECHER,
FRANKLAND,
MACKETT,
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 6th being wrote fair was read, approved, and signed.

Yesterday we received a letter from the gentlemen at Jugdea, dated the 2nd October, enclosing the manjee's receipt for 179 bundles of cloth on our Hon'ble Master's account.

At the same time we received a letter from the gentlemen at Cossimbazar dated the 1st instant, accompanying 223 of the November's bund and 62 bales of gurrahs on our Hon'ble Master's account.

The Surgeon of the *Chesterfield* sent in a letter requesting the usual allowance of head money for his care of 82 soldiers landed from that ship which amounting to current Rs. 328—

Agreed that the President do pay the same out of the cash.

Cancelled Mr. Beard's note, dated the 1st November 1751, and renewed the same for principal, the interest being paid out of the Treasury.

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
For Principal	4,665	6	3
Interest for a year's . .	419	13	9

Cancelled Mr. Holwell's note dated the 21st October 1751, for Principal.	7,556	5	0
Interest for a year and seven days is .	513	13	3
	8,070	2	3
Deduct endorsed off	7,747	1	9
To be paid out of the Treasury	323	0	6

Cancelled the following notes and renewed the same with interest thereon for a year, *viz.*:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Mr. Gray's, Executor of Captain West, on account of the Estate of Grace Craddock deceased dated the 22nd October 1751 for Current Rs.	18,390	10	9
Interest for a year is . . .	1,655	2	6
	20,045	13	3
Mr. George Gray's, Junior, his note dated the 23rd October 1751, for Principal Current Rs.	3,632	8	3
Interest for a year is . . .	326	14	9
	3,959	7	0

Granted a note of this date to William Fullerton, account James Wilson, for C. Rs. 3,240, Radhamohun Bysack's account being debited for that amount.

Granted a note of this date to Anunderam Coppree for Current Rs. 800, Praun Coppree's account being debited for that amount—

Granted a note of this date to Gopaul for C. Rs. 500, Jagamohun Bysack's account being debited for that amount—

Ordered the warehouse keeper to deliver out a pipe of Madeira wine bought at outcry to the amount of C. Rs. 1891 Radhabullub Seal's account being debited for that amount—

Ordered him likewise to deliver out goods bought at outcry to the amount of C. Rs. 21,234-6-6, that sum being transferred from Omichund's account.

Mr. Holwell having produced a power-of-attorney to receive the estate of Mr. Samuel Millechamp, who died some years ago in the Company's service at Cossimbazar—

Agreed that we write to the gentlemen there to inform us how that credit arose in their books, and give them permission to pay Nimmosin the balance due to him on the notes he lost on taking sufficient security from him and his whole family to indemnify the Company in case those notes hereafter should appear. To send us down their books balanced to the 30th April without loss of time, also the state of their factory to the last of this month as soon as possible after the expiration thereof.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior*.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
T. Z. HOLWELL.

Fort William, the 13th November 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President*.
THE WORSHIPFUL EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.
MESSIEURS MANNINGHAM,
BECHER,
FRANKLAND,
MACKETT,
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 9th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

Yesterday we received a letter from W. Watts, Esq., Chief, &c., Council at Cossimbazar, dated the 7th instant, acknowledging the receipt of 30 chests of treasure which they intend to dispose of in paying off the merchants last year's balances and in clearing their accounts with Jugut Seat.

At the same time we received two letters from the gentlemen at Jugdea, the one dated the 21st October, acquainting us of Mr. Playdell's setting out for Dacca to advise with the gentlemen thereabout the removal of their factory; that to prevent the purloining of their cloth at the washerman's they should be obliged to send a good part of their cloth down to us unless what they can get washed in their own garden.

The other dated 28th October, enclosing invoice of five tacktaes of fine cloth account the Hon'ble Company and accounting for the defect in their investment as follows. That the 25th June they informed us from the very extraordinary rise of cotton there that the value of their baftaes was increased above 20 per cent. beyond their general price, since which cotton has had no fall and rise which was then as usual at near two maunds for a rupee has rose to 25 seers, so that the manufacture of a piece of Jugdea cloth from two annas has rose to five annas. That those inconveniencies occasion a rise in their baftaes in the whole of above 25 per cent. and as notwithstanding they have their cloth at its old stated price so the defect in quality will appear they hope as little as ought to be expected.

The President wanting money to supply the cash—

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to advance him three thousand Madras rupees (M. Rs. 3,000). The Buxey delivers in the charges general for the month of September with vouchers for the several disbursements therein—

Ordered them to lay on the table for inspection.

The Millitary Store-keeper delivers in his account of stores expended in the month of October—

Ordered the accomptant to examine them.

The Master Attendant sent in his account of the Hon'ble Company's marine expense for the month of October—

Ordered the accomptant to examine it.

The Master Attendant requesting money to defray the monthly expenses of the Dockhead—

Agreed that the President do advance him three thousand Madras rupees (M. Rs. 3,000).

Mr. William Rider delivers in his report of the private trade on board the *Bombay Castle* belonging to the Captain and his officers—

Ordered the warehouse keeper to compare it with the manifest.

Captain Stevens sent in a letter to the Board requesting a survey on the *Oxford* within board—

Ordered the Master Attendant to take with him the Hon'ble Company's carpenter and comply with Captain Stevens' request and report the same in writing to the Board. The Proceedings of the Committee into the charges against Govindram Metre for converting servants' wages charged the Company to his own use being laid before the Board it was agreed to defer the consideration thereof till the Committee had completed the whole of their enquiry—

Ordered the export warehouse keeper to proceed in lading bales on board the *Wager*.

Ordered him to lade redwood and saltpetre on board the *Chesterfield* agreeable to the terms stipulated in charterparty—

Agreed that we sell the iron and steel belonging to the Hon'ble Company at public outcry this day month on the established terms; and

Ordered public notice to be affixed at our fort gates.

Huzzeramull lays before the Board a muster of tincall which he offers at 58 current rupees the factory maund which being of a good quality and much superior to what has been sold in the market at 45. We offered him C. Rs. 52, which he agreed to. Ordered the warehouse keeper to purchase it.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
T. Z. HOLWELL.

Fort William, the 16th November 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*
THE WORSHIPFUL EDWARD H. CRUTTENDEN.
MESSIEURS MANNINGHAM,
BECHER,
FRANKLAND,
MACKETT,
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 13th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

The 15th we received a letter from the gentlemen at Dacca dated the 26th ultimo accompanying the manjees' receipts for 112 bales of cloth and one bundle of musters, despatched them on our Hon'ble Masters' account under the care of Serjeant Demi Davy, a corporal and eight men.

The 11th we received a letter from Mr. Kelsall, Resident at Bulramgurry, dated the 26th October advising that his ill state of health not permitting him to reside any longer there he desires we will appoint another Chief to take charge of the factory, his design being to return to Europe for the recovery of his health, and as he has but a short time left to collect in his affairs he hopes he will not be detained there long.

The President wanting money to supply the cash—

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to advance him six thousand Madras rupees (M. Rs. 6,000).

The Buxey requesting money to defray the expenses of the factory—

Agreed that the President do advance him six thousand Madras rupees (M. Rs. 6,000).

The export warehouse keeper lays before the Board the abstract of the Dacca invoice of goods which were lost coming from thence at Baratalla under the care of Serjeant Demi Davy, who being called before us and asked how the boat whereon those goods were laden were lost informed us it was occasioned by the meeting of two tides in the mouth of Rangafoula creek, which run so extremely strong that it was impossible for him or any of the boats in the fleet to give any assistance to the two soldiers who were on board her and both drowned.

He likewise lays before the Board a list of goods which are now packed up in the cottah—

Ordered him to lade them on board the *Wager* in such proportions as will make her invoice amount to about nine lacks of rupees, she being intended for the first ship.

The store-keeper delivers in his account sales of damaged naval stores amounting to current Rs. 379-4—

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, and to be entered after this Consultation.

There being 50 chests of Madras rupees in the Treasury agreed to send 30 of them to Cossimbazar and ordered—

The Buxey to provide boats accordingly.

The President delivers in the cash account for the month of October, the balance whereof C. Rs. 3,858-15-3 particulars, *viz.*:—

Madras rupees	670 0 0		
Batta 10 per cent.	67 0 0		
		737 0 0	
Arcot rupees	2,890 0 0		
Batta 8 per cent.	231 3 3		
		3,121 3 3	
Cowries	...	0 12 0	C. Rs. a. p.
			3,858 15 3

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, and to be entered after this Consultation.

Agreed that we let out the *Godolphin* at freight for twelve months from the 1st day of January next to the highest bidder; and

Ordered public notice thereof to be affixed at our fort gates.

Mr. Kelsall having requested us to appoint a Chief at Bulramgurry in his room as his health will not permit him to reside there any longer, and Mr. McGuire requesting our permission to lay down his post of Secretary on account of an indisposition he has contracted by a close and constant application to the desk for these eight years, of which he hopes to recover by change of air—

Agreed that Mr. McGuire be permitted to resign his post when the *Wager* is despatched to take charge of that factory, and that Mr. John Stackhouse be appointed his assistant.

The following notes being cancelled were renewed with interest thereon for a year, *viz.*:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Buncheram Metre's, dated 25th Octouer 1751, for . .	5,349	10	3
Interest for a year is . . .	481	7	6
	5,831	1	9
Gopee Mohun Bysack's, dated 25th October, for . .	35,643	0	0
Interest for a year is . . .	3,207	14	0
	38,850	14	0
James Valicourt's, dated 25th October, for . . .	2,271	13	0
Interest for a year is . . .	204	7	6
	2,476	4	6
Deduct endorsed off	131	5	3
	2,344	15	3
Mrs. Holland's, dated 4th November 1751, for . . .	6,000	0	0
Interest for a year is . . .	540	0	0
	6,540	0	0

Granted a note of this date to John Brown for C. Rs. 16,000, that sum being endorsed off Gopee Mohun Bysack's note, dated the 25th October, for principal current Rs. 29,702-8.

Having inspected the Dacca goods and found them indifferent in the sortments and prized very high—

Agreed to write to the gentlemen there to transmit them our remarks to which we direct they reply fully, to enclose the invoices of treasure, and to permit Mr. Scrafton to return to Calcutta for the recovery of his health. Agreed to write to Mr. Kelsall at Bulramgurry to acquaint him that we have appointed Mr. William McGuire to succeed him, but as he cannot get out immediately we have directed Mr. Stackhouse to repair thither to take charge thereof with the balance of cash, papers, accounts, &c., belonging to the Honourable Company.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
T. Z. HOLWELL.

Fort William, the 20th November 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*
THE HON'BLE EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN.
MESSRS. MANNINGHAM,
BECHER,
FRANKLAND,
MACKETT,
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 16th being wrote fair was now read, approved and signed.

This morning we received a letter from the Hon'ble Richard Bourchier, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council of Bombay, under date the 26th

September, advising that a ship belonging to the King of Persia under the care of Mahomed Beg Shaloo, and as they apprehend bound for the Bay, in which case they request us not to purchase her, nor suffer any under our protection to do it, as it may be of fatal consequence to the Company's affairs in Persia, as the Persians will not fail to demand greatly more than her value if purchased as above by any under the English protection, besides engaging them in endless and costly disputes.

The President wanting money to supply the cash—

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to advance him twelve thousand Arcot rupees (A. Rs. 12,000).

Captain Hutchinson sent in a letter to the Board to request five thousand Arcot rupees for the use and expenses of the *Godolphin* on charter party terms—

Agreed that the President do comply therewith and his request ordered to be entered after this Consultation.

The Millitary Store-keeper requesting money to provide stores—

Agreed that the President do advance him three thousand Madras rupees (M.Rs. 3,000.)

The Master Attendant's account for the month of October having been examined—

Agreed that the President do pay him the balance C. Rs. 4,319-5.

The Millitary Paymaster lays before the Board his account current for the month of October and November—

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, and to be entered after this Consultation.

The charges general for the month of September having been examined with the vouchers for the several disbursements therein particulars, *viz.* :—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Charges, general	1,706	11	3
Do. diet	1,051	6	9
Do. reparation	976	7	0
Pilots' wages and seamen in monthly pay	25	0	0
Charges, cattle	182	12	9
Servants' wages in monthly pay	617	15	6
Charges, merchandize	1,153	12	0
Durbar charges	5,284	5	0
Factors' provisions	9	12	6
Stores for exportation	172	12	9
Charges, millitary	238	3	0
Current Rs. .	11,419	5	6

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, and to be delivered the accomptant.

This being the proper season for forming a body of militia—

Agreed, that a Colonel's commission be drawn out for Mr. Cruttenden to command the same, and that we dispose of the other commissions as follows :—

A Captain's commission to Mr. Peter Amyatt.

A Lieutenant's commission for Mr. Thomas Coales.

Ensign's commissions for Messrs. William Ellis and Samuel Waller and an Adjutant's commission for Mr. John Johnstone.

Ordered them to attend on the parade on Monday by six o'clock in the morning.

Govindram Metre sent in his answer relating to the rise of the farms, sale of the bazars, &c., which being read—

Ordered it to be entered after this Consultation.

Perrins's garden being much out of repair and of no use to any of the covenanted servants—

Agreed to sell it at public outcry on Monday the 11th December next.

Mrs. Bradford, relict of Lieutenant Bradford, sent in a petition to the Board, requesting an allowance for herself and family—

Agreed to refer it to the Hon'ble Company and recommend her as an object of charity.

Messrs. William Weston and Charles Hampton sent in their petitions requesting leave to return to Europe on the *Wager*.

Agreed to comply therewith on their paying the usual Rs. 96 into the Treasury.

Granted a note of this date to Govindram Dut for C. Rs. 1,630, Ghireedur Dutt's account being debited for the same.

Ordered the warehouse-keeper to deliver out goods bo^t at outcry to the amount of C. Rs. 10,778-0-9, that sum being made good as follows:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Transferred from Killeram Roy's account	1,201	3	3
Ditto from Radakissen Mullick's	1,201	3	3
Endorsed off Gopee Mohun Bysack's note, dated the 25th October 1751 for Prl. C, Rs. 29,702-8	8,375	10	3
C. Rs. .	10,778	0	9

The treasure designed for Cossimbazar being laden on board the boats—

Agreed to dispatch it under the care of Lieutenant William Keene, and that we write to the gentlemen there to enclose the manjee's receipts.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior*.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
T. L. HOLWELL.

To—The HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council of Fort William.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—Your Honour, &c., having called upon me to know the reason why the Company's farms of the revenues sold so much higher this year than usual, I beg leave to remind Your Honour, &c., that the rice farms have been sold at outcry for many years past, ever since the increase of the inhabitants of the town made the revenues rise so much as they have done lately: therefore it is not possible for me to give a positive and certain answer to your question, as all things sold in that manner depends often on people's opinion of their worth being more than appears, and other reasons too long for me to enumerate here; but the reason of this sudden rise at present appears to me owing in the first and greatest part to the great famine and scarcity of all kinds of necessaries of life that Your Honour, &c., are sensible has been to the greatest degree this season, and what has not been known for these sixty years past, for it arose to so dreadful a degree that many of your inhabitants have perished within the town with hunger, a truth well-known to every one. I humbly presume your Honours, &c., are acquainted that the duties here are levied on the gross sales, and those duties are mostly on the necessaries of life, the consumption of which must be nearly equal, let the price be what it will. If cloth is dear a poor man may put off the buying of a new coat until the price falls; but for victuals, when hunger presses, every one must buy, if he has money to purchase it. Therefore it is plain, if the consumption is pretty near equal at all times, that when the price is high, the duties being so much per cent. on the gross sales, they must at that time amount to a much larger sum than when the sales from their cheapness did not produce so large a sum of money. But to explain this affair more to Your Honour, &c., I take the liberty to subjoin hereto a calculation of the difference that the prices of grain, &c., necessaries will make in the duties which are farmed of the zemindar.

					Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.
1751,	October	Rice	1 Md.	at 32 Srs. per Re.	1	4	0	duty at 6 pies per Re.	0	0	7½
1752	„	Do.	„	„ 16 „ „	2	8	0	ditto	0	1	3
1751	„	Grain		...... „	1	0	0	...	0	0	6
1752	„	Do.	„	at 12 Srs. per Re.	3	5	6	...	0	1	8
1751	„	Wheat	„	„ 32 „ „	1	4	0	...	0	0	8
1752	„	Do.	„	„ 6 „ „	4	11	0	...	0	2	4
1751	„	Flour	„	„ 3 „ „	3	0	0	...	0	1	6
1752	„	Do.	„	......	2	0	0	...	0	4	0
1751	„	Oil	„	......	5	0	0	...	0	2	6
1752	„	Do.	„	......	11	0	0	...	0	5	6

By this account Your Honour, &c., will observe the incredible dearness of many sorts of the necessaries of life within the month preceding the sales of the farms, though the buyers might think their prices might not keep up for the whole ensuing year; yet from the present dearness and the bad prospect of the expected crops of grain from the great rains having overflowed the country enough to drown whatever expected crops of grain planted in the low grounds, the purchasers of the farms might with almost a certainty foresee great dearness likely to ensue. This I look upon as the greatest reason for the present rise of the farms, besides which it is well known many of the head merchants brought large quantities of rice in the place for the use of their numerous families without paying any duties, as likewise others (by custom of many years standing) introduced large quantities into the town for exportation which till within a year past never paid any duties to the farmers, and they being ordered to be taken off this last year will make very considerable increase of profit in the farms. Thus I have endeavoured to satisfy Your Honour, &c., to a question you pleased to ask me, and hope it will meet with your approval, and that you will remember that all things sold by public auction meets rises and falls that there is as little account to be given for as there is a certainty of their continuance. All I can assure Your Honour, &c., for certain fact is, that when I had a knowledge of the management of the Hon'ble Company's farms, they were sold for as much as they were worth, for the truth of this, I appeal to many of the substantial farmers, whether they have not been loosers by their contracts, and also many other farmers who have run away both of them and their securities, because they were ruined by the hard bargains they had made.

I am, with submission,
Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,
Your most obedient humble Servant,

CALCUTTA,
The 20th November 1752.

GOVINDRAM METRE.

Fort William, the 27th November 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*
THE WORSHIPFUL EDMUND HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.
MESSIEURS MANNINGHAM,
BECHER,
FRANKLAND,
MACKETT,
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the table.

The Consultation of the 20th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

The 20th we received a letter from the gentlemen at Cossimbazar dated the 14th instant, acquainting us that their merchant's reasons for being so late in bringing in their piece goods were owing to the long and heavy rains, also the scarcity and dearness of provisions; but now the rains are over they promise to exert themselves in complying with their contracts, though they shall suffer very considerably thereby from the rise of raw silk and apprehend they shall fall short in the Plain Taffaties, Ordinary Bandannoes and Choppaes. That on the clearing the Seat's account at that factory their Gomastah gave them to understand how much Jugut Seat is displeased at the balance due to them at Dacca not being paid off, and as they are apprehensive should any be sent to Cossimbazar for the ensuing investment they may require it as due to them, they request us to take this affair under consideration and hinder it if possible, as a stoppage of that kind may be attended with very ill consequences and prevent their making early contracts.

The 22nd we received a letter from the gentlemen at Jugdea, dated the 28th October, accompanying five Tucktaes of cloth on our honourable master's account.

The 24th we received a letter from the gentlemen at Dacca, dated the 13th instant, observing to us that with the expected fifty chests they intend to pay of the Seats, to purchase the remainder of this year's investment, and begin that of the next. That they have recommended Colinda or Ramnaut Colly to the gentlemen at Jagdea for removing to, especially this last, as having the advantage of being near the great river, and clear of the inconveniences attending the Boars and Macraes, and as Mr. Playdell is directed by Mr. Baillie to take a careful survey of this place, the result thereof they imagine will be speedily communicated to us by the gentlemen there.

That their mistake with respect to the allibaliies arose from the Company's mentioning this article at a higher price than in former invoices, and by their invoice book they appear something cheaper than in former years; that Mr. Wogan desires our permission to come to Calcutta for the recovery of his health.

The Master Attendant delivers in his report survey of the *Admiral Vernon's* bottom and *Oxford* within board which being read—

Ordered them to be entered after this consultation.

Captain Thomas Brown sent in a letter to request a survey on the *Bombay Castle* within board—

Ordered the Master Attendant to take with him the Hon'ble Company's carpenter and comply therewith, and the request to be entered after this consultation.

The storekeeper delivers in his account stores for the month of September.

Ordered the accomptant to examine it.

Agreed to send the *Durrington* to Bombay with what surplus saltpetre remains of their indent, and ordered Captain Drake to get her in readiness. Captain Cooke sent in a letter to the board to request 600 bags of saltpetre at half freight.

Captain Cooke being sent for and agreeing that it shall be turned into whole freight should there be occasion hereafter,

Ordered the warehouse-keeper to lade that quantity on board the *Admiral Vernon* and that Captain Cook's request be entered after this consultation.

This being a proper season of the year for surveying the river and laying the buoys—

Ordered the Master Attendant to take with him the sloops and pilots who are now up at town and proceed on the service, and on his return to report the same in writing to the Board.

The import warehouse-keeper delivers in the retail account for the month of October particulars, *viz.*:—

	Yds.	Ins.	Rs.	a.	p.
Broadcloth, fine	19	0	138	12	0
Do. auroral	9	0	30	6	0
Do. ordinary	12	0	27	0	0
Perpets ordinary	3	0	2	10	0
Broad perpets ordinary	6	0	7	8	0
Camblet	7	0	21	0	0
Allapeen	9	8	19	0	0
Flannel	20	0	22	8	0
Velvets	136	8	1,180	15	9

	Pieces.	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Broadcloth, fine	16	1,922	7	6
Perpets, fine	43	1,204	0	0
Broadcloth, ordinary	47	2,260	14	0
Broad aurora	1	70	0	0
Broad perpets, ordinary	12	360	0	0
Culjeed flannels	13	280	0	0
Duroy	2	50	0	0
Flannel shawls	1	8	8	0

	M.	S.	ch.	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Lead	51	21	12	1,263	2	3
Copper	31	14	12	376	1	9

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, the amount thereof, Current rupees 9,250-13-3 being paid into the Treasury.

Several of the inhabitants of this town having absented themselves from attending the Militia agreeable to the order of last Council—

Ordered the list of their names to be affixed at the fort gate and notice given in case of their non-attendance in future, that they may expect to meet with proper resentment from the Board.

The export warehouse-keeper acquaints the Board of the tardiness of the merchants in bringing in their cloth into the Cotta, and they being in waiting were called before us and their reasons for this delay required. Replied that the aurung goods are not yet arrived, they having been prevented from washing them by the heavy rains, but they are in daily expectation of their arrival, and with regard to goods made in and about Calcutta, that they have not brought in the usual quantity owing to the desertion of numbers of the weavers, occasioned by the dearness of provisions.

Cancelled Messrs. Drake and Mannigham's note dated the 7th of November 1751 and renewed the same for the balance, *viz.* :—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
For Principal	6,215	10	0
Interest for a year is	559	6	6
	6,775	0	6
Deduct endorsed off	5,955	11	6
Revenue for Current rupees	819	5	0

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to pay off the following notes, they being now cancelled—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Messrs. Fytche and Irwin, Account Francis Cheyne, dated the 28th May 1752, for				3,682	1	3
Interest for five months eighteen days is				154	10	9
				3,837	12	0
Deduct endorsed off				3,061	8	0
				776	4	0
Messrs. Fytche and Irwin, Account Francis Cheyne, dated the 29th May 1752, for	1,314	0	0			
Interest for five months and seventeen days	54	14	0			
				1,368	14	9
Messrs. Fytche and Irwin, Account Francis Cheyne, dated the 1st June 1752, for	12,799	2	3			
Interest for five months and fifteen days	527	15	6			
	13,327	1	9			
Deduct endorsed off	10,205	0	0			
				3,122	1	9

Mr. Fytche, account Francis Cheyne, dated the 16th July, for	3,885	1	3			
Interest for four months is . . .	116	8	9			
	4,001	10	0			
Deduct endorsed off	3,061	8	0	940	2	0
Mr. Dawson's account Mr. Holwell dated the 7th November, for principal . .	796	0	6			
Interest for one year and nine days . .	73	6	9	869	7	3

Ordered the Warehouse keeper to deliver out goods not at outcry to the amount of current rupees 12,695-6-9, that sum being made good as follows, *viz.* :—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Endorsed off Gopeemohun Bysaack's note dated the 28th October 1751, for principal	29,702	8	0	2,184	0	0
Endorsed off Govinchuran Seat's note dated the 27th of August 1752, for principal .	9,088	15	6	6,556	8	9
Transferred from Radakissen encondcotmah's account				673	6	6
Transferred from Omichund's . . .				1,719	14	6
Do. from Radakissen Mullick's .				780	12	6
Paid into the Treasury				780	12	6
Current rupees .				12,695	6	9

Resolved that no bills of exchange be granted after Tuesday the 5th of December next, and ordered public notice hereof to be given accordingly. The President lays before the Board a translate of a perwanna he received from Alliverdi Cawn to transmit our business at the Durbar of Munsoor Aul Mulk and to order our Vacqueel to attend there accordingly.

Ordered it to be entered after this consultation and that a copy to be drawn out and transmitted to the gentlemen at Cossimbazar.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
T. Z. HOLWELL.

NABOB ALI VERDI CAWN'S Perwanna.

The Head of all Merchants, the Pattern of friendship, Mr. Drake, Director to the English Company, may health attend you.

Munsoor-Aul-Mulk (who is the delight of my eyes), my Commander and better than my life, always speaks in your praise to me, and that the Company's affairs may go well on is his particular desire. You have expressed a desire likewise that the Company's affairs requisite may be transacted by him, for which reasons I have certainly fixed that your vacqueels shall attend his Durbar, and there to transact the business of all your factories and not go to any other places. Therefore, do you write strictly to your Gomastah at Cossimbazar that your Vacqueels attend there accordingly.

12th Muhurrum, 5th Son.

Fort William, the 4th December 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT :

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*

THE WORSHIPFUL EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.

MESSRS. MANNINGHAM,
BECHER,
FRANKLAND,
MACKETT,
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the table.

The Consultation of the 27th ultimo being wrote fair, was now read, approved, and signed.

The 28th ultimo.—We received a letter from the gentlemen at Dacca, dated the 22nd November, enclosing the Consultation from August to November inclusive, Charges, general, Cash Accounts, Treasury Accounts, and Muster Rolls for July, August, and September, and hope to be able to despatch to us in about 15 days a parcel of cloth on the Hon'ble Company's account. At the same time we received a letter from the gentlemen at Jugdea, under date the 16th November, in reply to our remarks on their investments, and doubting not what they wrote to us last on this point will be entirely satisfactory; as a rise so very material as 35 per cent. in the cloth, when at the same time they have suffered none to us, though perhaps not so much as might in reason be expected, for in counting the threads, they have seldom found a deficiency of above 100 to their Factory musters, and this is far from being equal to the late extraordinary rise of cloth; and as also, considering the great clog their Delolls are to their business by being obliged to satisfy their creditors to squeeze money from all hands they can by that means, notwithstanding the regular advance of ready money which they have for carrying on their investment, hardly buy of the weavers but at least partly on trust; and as this is an inconvenience to the weavers, so it occasions their supplying them with cloth inferior to what it otherwise might be. As to the defect in sorting they must observe, that in their coarse-cloth, wherein the smallest inequality is visible, many sorts might be made thereof, though the standing custom of that Factory has always been but two. As to the torn cloth (which the Delolls are by contract obliged to take off), they shall endeavour to get it changed, though, as these people are no ways responsible through their bad circumstances, so the effecting of this will probably be difficult. That in regard to the removal of their Factory, when Mr. Baillie was at Dacca, the gentlemen made no objection to Mutlubgunge, though they now apprehend it to be within their district, and on the whole an improper place for them to remove to; so that they shall now seek out a place which they may approve of, and at the same time may be proper to conduct the business, and when fixed on shall write to us more particularly on this subject, that as the time of the Mugs draw nigh, they request us to order the pinnace to be with them by the end of next month for the safe conveyance of their cloth and a chest of good powder with a lanthorn or two.

The 30th ultimo.—Received a letter from the gentlemen at Cassimbazar, dated the 25th, advising that they cannot get gun carriages made there either so cheap or good as in Calcutta, all kinds of artificers being employed by the Nabob, and iron work very dear. That Samuel Millechamp being considerably in debt to several merchants, those who are debtors to the Hon'ble Company, on his demise the Chief and Council in behalf of the Company and to secure them took charge of his effects, sold the same and brought the amount to his credit in their books being D. M. Rs. 1,153-8-9, where it still remains, as no regular demands have been yet made, but they are daily liable to them.

By a country ship we received a letter from the Hon'ble Thomas Saunders, Esq., President and Governor in Council, &c., at Fort St. George, dated the

13th October, advising of the arrival there of the *Colechester* and enclosing an indent for packing stuff which they request us to comply with the first opportunity.

The cash account for the month of November being now delivered in by the President, the balance whereof being C. Rs. 998-7-3, particulars, *viz.*:—

	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Madras Rupees	651	0	0			
Batta 10 per cent.	65	1	6			
				716	1	6
Arcot Rupees	260	0	0			
Batta 8 per cent.	20	12	9			
				280	12	9
Cowries				1	9	0
C. Rs.				991	7	3

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, and to be entered after this Consultation.

The President wanting money to supply the cash—

Ordered the Committee to advance him ten thousand Madras rupees (M. Rs. 10,000-0-0).

The Export-warehouse-keeper requesting money to provide packing stuff and defray expenses.

Agreed that the President do advance him ten thousand Madras rupees (M. Rs. 10,000-0-0).

James Valicourt, Esq., Sheriff, sent in his note for the allowance due to him and his officers for the month of November which amounting to C. Rs. 124-2-3,

Agreed that the President do pay the same out of the cash.

Mr. Dumbleton, our attorney, attends with a bill of complaint against Mr. Ranson either to oblige him to pay the sum of current Rs. 50,000-0-0 he stands charged with or in case he does not acquiesce thereto for to oblige him to prove his monthly accounts, which being signed—

Ordered him to affile it in the Mayor's Court, as likewise a petition account Deepchund's deposit, desiring it to be paid into the Treasury, as no one has recommenced the suit.

Captain Cooke sent in a letter requesting a survey on the *Vernon* within board,

Ordered the Master Attendant to comply with his request, and

Ordered his letter to be entered after this Consultation.

Mr. Ranson sent in a letter to the Board requesting our permission to return to Europe with his family on the *Admiral Vernon*, which being read,

Ordered it to be entered after this consultation and to be complied with on his giving security for the amount of the charge against him.

Mr. Holwell pays into the Treasury the *dussatary** or 10 per cent on the sales of the Hon'ble Company's Farms amounting to Company's Rs. 6,457 and acquaints the board that Ramanny Chorun Gose who bought the Caulkerage Farm for Rs. 730 not having been able to give sufficient security, the same was resold at outcry to Kirparam Metre for Rs. 565, as also has been the farm of old Iron and old Cattys (whose pottah expired the 12th instant) for Rs. 565 to Kissendary.

Having laden on the *Hector* the saltpetre and gunnies designed for Bombay—

Agreed that we write by her to the gentlemen there, advise them of the disposition of our tonnage, and desire them to provide a cargo of the best Broach cotton for the *Durrington* that she may be returned to us early in the season, and

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* Dussatary, properly Dasturí, *H.*, Dastúrí, *Beng.*—A fee, a perquisite, a commission; especially a fee claimed by cashiers and servants on articles purchased, or on payments made.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

Ordered Mr. William Rider to repair down to Ingellee there to get the bills of lading signed and deliver Captain Kirwan his dispatches, to advise the gentlemen of Bombay of what he may find necessary from below and to report the needful to us on his return in writing.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*

E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

C. MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

W. FRANKLAND.

W. MACKETT.

T. Z. HOLWELL.

Fort William, the 7th December 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*

THE WORSHIPFUL EDWARD H. CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.

MESSRS. MANNINGHAM,

BECHER,

FRANKLAND,

MACKETT,

HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the table.

The Consultation of the 4th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

This morning received a letter from the gentlemen at Jugdea, dated 16th November, accompanying 314 bales and 1 tucktae of cloth on the Hon'ble Company's account.

The President lays before the Board a letter which he yesterday received from the Nabob accompanying a seerpaw and elephant.

Ordered the translate to be entered after this Consultation.

The Registrar in the Mayor's Court sent in his bills for fees in the suit against Mr. Ranson and on account Deepchand's deposit which amounting to C. Rs. 183-15—

Agreed that the President do pay the same.

Captains Stevens of the *Oxford* and Brown of the *Bombay Castle* sent in petition for 300 bags of saltpetre to be laden on them at half freight and consenting to it being turned into whole freight should we hereafter have occasion—

Ordered the warehouse-keeper to comply with their request and that they be entered after this Consultation.

Granted a sett of bills to William Frankland, Esq., for current Rs. 1,038-3-6 payable to Thomas Frankland, Esq., or order at 2*s.* 3*d.* is £ sterling

116-16, that amount being endorsed off Mr. Frankland's note dated January 1751-52 for current Rs. 2,037-13-9—

Ordered the warehouse keeper to deliver Madeira wine to the amount of current Rs. 189, Radamohun Bysack's account being debited for that amount.

Ordered him to deliver out goods bo^t at outcry to the amount of current Rs. 1,777-3-9, Omichund's account being debited for that sum—

Agreed that we write to the gentlemen at Cossimbazar to transmit to them invoice of the treasure sent them by Ensign Keene, also a copy of Alliverdi Cawn's letter to the President.

The Register of the Court of Appeals sent in the account of the duty by him collected from the 1st November 1751 to the 1st November 1752 and now pays the balance current Rs. 379-9-3 into the Treasury.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*

E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

C. MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

W. FRANKLAND.

W. MACKETT.

To—The HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council of Fort William.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS.—The *Oxford* standing in need of stiffening in order to fit her for the sea, I humbly request Your Honour, &c., will please to order the lading on board her 600 bags of saltpetre on half freight.

I am with respect,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

THOMAS STEVENS.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 7th December 1752.

To—The HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council of Fort William.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—The *Bombay Castle* standing in need of stiffening in order to fit her for the sea, I humbly request Your Honour, &c., will please to order the lading on board her 600 bags of saltpetre on half freight.

Being with respect,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

THOMAS BROWN.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 7th December 1752.

Fort William, the 11th December 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*
THE WORSHIPFUL EDWARD H. CRUTTENDEN.
MESSIEURS, MANNINGHAM,
BECHER,
FRANKLAND,
MACKETT,
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 7th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

This morning we received a letter from the gentlemen at Dacca dated the 4th instant, acknowledging the receipt of our remarks on their investment, that they never remembered such a list before, to which in obedience to our orders they now reply, article by article, but beg leave to premise that they cannot any way conceive the muster of 1738 to be a fit standard for judging by them of the cloth sent us this year as the copass* or country cotton has not been for these two years past under 9 or 10 rupees, and the price of rice at the same time very dear, whereas in 1738 the copass did not exceed Rs. 2 or Rs. 2-8 and the rice very cheap, mostly 2 maunds 20 seers to 3 maunds for a rupee to which may be added to what is well known to all the purchasers of cloth, that the prices of all sorts of cloths have risen near 30 per cent., some more, since the year 1738; and that they now labour there and has done so for these two years past under the inconveniency of a French factory continually emulating the Hon'ble Company's trade and have advanced the price of all cloth both coarse and fine and obliged them to be less severe with their delolls in pricing their cloth; they have frequently told them that they were quite indifferent at their ferreting or rejecting their cloth being sure of disposing of it advantageously to the French; that they have been as strict in the examining their cloth as possible, and have returned great quantities even considerably more than they have taken. That they beg leave to add it must seem almost beyond belief that Mr. Clerimbault, who has been lately and considerably concerned in the purchase of all kinds of India cloth in England for many years, and on that account was sent from thence to settle at Dacca and since continually employed in that branch of the Hon'ble Company's affairs (who jointly with the rest have bestowed all care, industry, and attention in the examine of the Hon'ble Company's cloth and been as severe in it as the present circumstances will allow) should be so egregiously and generally mistaken as almost every one of these remarks will represent him to be. That they have sold the bullion and shall pay off the Seats' demand with the amount. That they have recommended Ramnaut Colly to Mr. Baillie as much the most proper place for settling at.

The President wanting money to supply the cash—

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to advance him twenty-three thousand Madras rupees (M. Rs. 23,000).

The Buxey wanting money to defray the expenses of this factory—

Agreed that the President do advance him twenty thousand Madras rupees (M. Rs. 20,000.)

The Master Attendant delivers in account of the Hon'ble Company's marine expenses for the month of November.

He likewise requests money for the monthly expenses of the Dockhead—

Agreed that the President do advance him three thousand Madras rupees (Rs. 3,000).

Perrin's garden being put up at outcry sold for current Rs. 2,500 to Mr. Holwell.

Mr. William Rider having returned from Ingellee sent in a letter to the

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* Copass properly Kapás. Cotton, the raw or undressed produce of the Gossypium herbaceum; also, the plant.—*Wilsons' Glossary of Indian Terms.*

Board reporting his having despatched the *Hector* from thence the 8th instant, when her draught of water was 17 feet 9 inch on an leven keel and enclosing the following papers:—

Copy of his letter to the Governor and Council of Bombay.

Master Attendant's report of her guns, arms, &c.

Second and third bills of lading.

The import warehouse keeper acquaints the Board that by the best information he can procure woollen goods, and lead will sell better during the cold season than in February, therefore desires the approbation of the Board for putting up the cargoes of the *Admiral Vernon*, *Chesterfield*, *Bombay Castle*, and *Hector* on Thursday, the 28th instant, which being agreed to—

Ordered public notice thereof to be given as usual.

He now delivers in his report of lead and copper received per ship *Bombay Castle*, which being read—

Ordered him to demand the amount of the deficiency of Captain Brown and the report to be entered after this Consultation.

The receipts of the goods in the import warehouse which have been sold at publick outcry and not cleared out were now brought in and signed before the Board by Messrs. Cruttenden and Becher—

Ordered them to be entered after this Consultation.

As there are no bidders who offer freight for the *Godolphin*—

Agreed that we send her up to the coast with rice; and

Ordered Captain Hutchinson to get her ready as soon as he possibly can.

Ordered the Buxey to procure musters of rice and lay the same before the Board.

There being four laacks of rupees in the Treasury agreed to pay off interest notes to that amount and ordered the Accomptant to lay an account thereof before the Board.

Granted an interest note to Mrs. Elizabeth Cockhill dated this day for C. Rs. 16,000, John Brown's note dated the 16th November being cancelled to make good that amount.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior*.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.

To—The HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council of Fort William.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—I beg leave to lay the enclosed before you, being an information I have received from my officer of a mutiny which happened on board the *Oxford* on the 5th instant, and as my officer hath been so remiss in his duty to let those people (after he had quashed the riot) escape from the ship, I humbly request you will be pleased to give directions to the several Commanders of the ships in the country trade not to entertain them, but to deliver them up, and that search be made in town after them.

I am,
HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,
Your obedient, humble Servant,
THOMAS STEVENS

CALCUTTA,
The 14th December 1752.

Dated Ship "Oxford," the 6th December 1752.

To—CAPTAIN THOMAS STEVENS.

SIR,—In a small time after the long boat went away there came in a boat which they had taken from the shore Jackson, Criffin, Asher, and Blair, who demanded their chests, &c in a very insulting manner threatening the life of any officer or foremastman in the ship with large clubs in their hands that dared to oppose them, and Asher had his on the gunwale, but on my snapping a pistol at him which missed fire he let his chest fall overboard and lost it. Jackson used very abusive language and swore he would knock me down if I hindered him from taking himself or anything he wanted out of the ship, and Criffin to be through my body. Now I seeing they were actually intentioned to mutiny, and Jackson the head of them, fired a ball at him but missed him on which he threw an iron bolt at me which struck me but did not much hurt, but Jackson swore if I fired again at him he would go down and blow the ship up, but that I took care to prevent by placing people to take care of that place; but I heard him say that he would blow ship and every body to hell rather than as he called it be ill used, and Crippin run into the gun-room which was then open. He being at work in the bread-room and seized on two poleaxes, but the gunner took them from him, so you see that Jackson and Crippin were the two ringleaders, though Asher and Blair were very abusive; but at last we got them quiet and after that they four with Matthew Tulip went into the boat and swore when they were put off they intended to come up to you for they were resolved on what they told me on Sunday which was to have no new boatswain.

I am,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

JOHN SMALLWOOD.

Fort William, the 17th December 1752.

At a Consultation, Present:

The Hon'ble Roger Drake, Esq., *President.*

The Worshipful Edward H. Cruttenden.

Messieurs Manningham,
Becher,
Frankland,
Mackett,
Holwell.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 14th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

Received a letter from the gentlemen at Dacca dated the 7th instant, enclosing the state of their factory to the 30th ultimo.

Received a letter from the gentlemen at Jugdea dated the 3rd instant, adding as a further reason for the badness of their cloth that of the thread, exclusive of which the increase which their baftaes suffer in their price may be estimated at 30 per cent., and as under this inconvenience with that as before mentioned to us of the bad circumstances of the delolls it is impossible for them to keep their cloth up to its old musters, so rather than suffer its fabrick to be spoiled so as perhaps to be unfit for the use it is designed, they recommend it to us to permit a rise of 10 or 15 per cent. in the stated prices of their cloth, and by which means they shall be able to remedy that defect in it complained of by the Council for these eight or ten years past; and as this was granted to the factory in the Hon'ble Company's directions received about four years ago, so they do not doubt our making a proper allowance in this point, as it is now so much more necessary.

Received a letter from the gentlemen at Dacca, dated the 11th December enclosing an invoice of 76 bales and a bundle of musters, account the Hon'ble Company and advising of their having forwarded their goods.

Captain Cooke sent in a letter requesting us to supply him with nine guns, he being obliged to throw the like number overboard when his ship struck, on the Island Mayotta—

Ordered the Millitary Storekeeper to comply with his request, and that his letter be entered after this Consultation.

The Zemindar lays before the Board the state of the revenues—

Ordered them to lay on the table for the consideration of the Board.

The export warehouse keeper and sub. export warehouse keeper delivered into the Board a letter relating to the sorting the cloth in such manner as may obviate the repeated complaints from home of the great irregularity of the cloth in one and the same bale, and a parcel resorted after the manner proposed by them lay ready for inspection.

The President and Council went to the warehouse and examined the same; and it appearing to us that a greater equality may be preserved in the bales by this method, we approved the same; and ordered that the different sortments of cloth in future be examined and packed in the manner set forth in their letter, and that the said letter be entered after this Consultation.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*

E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

C. MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

W. FRANKLAND.

W. MACKETT.

To—The Hon'ble Roger Drake, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council of Fort William.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,—In order to save the Ship *Admiral Vernon* when ashore in the outward-bound passage we hove nine of the guns overboard and cannot find any here trustworty to replace them. I have no objections to taking some of the Company's new guns if any of the same size, otherwise will do my endeavour to get some on the Coast.

As the ship is now ready to fall down the river, I hope Your Honour, &c., will be pleased to order on board bales, for it will not be safe to carry her down without more weight in her bottom.

I am, with respect,
Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,
Your most obedient servant,

Calcutta,
The 17th December 1752.

EDMD. COOKE.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,—Our hon'ble employers having in many parts of their lists of investment and general orders by the ships this season complained greatly of the assortment of goods from hence, and inequality thereof in one and the same bale, we beg leave to trouble Your Honour, &c., with a few observations on this head, that our sentiments through your means may be transmitted to our Hon'ble Masters for their notice and confirmation should we be so fortunate to merit their approval in the method we shall take the liberty of pointing out to rectify in some measure the error complained of. In order that this may appear in a clear light and show the necessity of it, we shall with your permission subjoin the manner in which goods are usually sorted, prized, and embaled in the cottah.

So soon as the merchants bring their cloth into the warehouse the whole is examined by the sorters and sorted into the different letters peculiar to the species of cloth, and in this manner every merchant's cloth is prepared for the prizing, and divided into such a number of tokes or parcels having the merchant's name affixed thereto who provided the same.

When the goods are thus prepared three pieces from every separate parcel and from every letter of each sortment of goods are promiscuously drawn by the young gentlemen who are assistants in the warehouse, which three pieces are carefully examined by the warehouse keeper and his assistant, and the middle pieces of the three in point of goodness is then fixed upon by the warehouse keeper and the merchant who provided the cloth as the piece by which the goods are to be prized by the Governor and Council, and on the goodness or defect of the middle piece so chosen depends the price of the goods to the merchant. In this manner each middle piece of each sortment of cloth and every letter of said sortment is drawn and fixed upon as the price by which said parcel is to be prized by the Governor and Council in the prizing day, when they are compared and examined with the muster contracted upon and prized by the Governor and Council according to their equalling or falling short of such musters.

After this the cloth is embaled, the method having been to pack every merchant's cloth that is prized at one piece in the same bale, by which means a bale is often composed of cloth belonging to several merchants which have been provided by their separate gomastahs (or agents) at different aurungs and sorted in the warehouse by different hands; by which method though each separate parcel of cloth is never so well sorted in regard to itself, yet the fabrick of every aurung having its peculiar qualities, will not permit of their being packed in one and the same bale without an inequality appearing. Some aurungs being noted for the fineness of their thread in which case the cloth though fine will appear thin, whereas the cloth from a different aurung of a coarser thread by being struck closer and equal may in all probability be a superior piece of cloth, as every piece of cloth of the same fabrick and breadth, though provided at different aurungs, ought to be composed of an equal number of threads.

Another material reason why the pieces should not wholly determine the manner of packing arises from the uncertainty of the pieces themselves, for according to the method before set forth of chusing the prize pieces by drawing three promiscuously from each parcel, it may happen that a superior parcel of cloth, as there will always remain in each letter several degrees of goodness, though not sufficient to alter the letter, will be lower prized than another parcel, rather inferior by the chance of drawing the price pieces. For instance let three pieces be drawn from two different parcels of cloth, we will suppose the parcels equal in number though not in goodness, yet if by chance of drawing from the first parcel one of the three pieces prove of the first degree and the other two of the lowest, the middle piece will of consequence be but an inferior piece, and the parcel be prized accordingly; yet if from the inferior parcel the pieces drawn should prove two of the first degree and one of the lowest, the middle piece will prove a superior piece of the parcel (which may in general only equal the inferior of the former parcel) and be prized at the same price, on which account these two parcels will be packed together and a great inequality arise in one and the same bale, it being impossible to preserve one standard in so great a variety of cloths though of the same fabricks, provided at different aurungs and sorted here by variety of hands.

Being desirous to remedy this defect and give our honourable masters all the satisfaction in our power, we have made various trials since the coming in of the goods this season, hoping by some means to succeed and give them satisfaction in attending to the duties of the warehouse and discharging to the utmost of our abilities the trust they have been pleased to repose in us.

The soot romalls and gurrahs being the only cloth hitherto brought into the warehouse in any quantity we have had them sorted with the greatest strictness and (though not usual with coarse goods) resorted them the day before the prizing, yet after they were prized, notwithstanding all our care, when they were prepared for packing according to the usual method we still found a very great irregularity in the bales and which must be the case unavoidably, while a regard is only had to the prices, for the reasons already assigned in this address by the manner of drawing the prize pieces.

This proving ineffectual we made another effort with the soot romalls prized the 13th December, by resorting the whole parcel after they had been prized, though at the same letter into one parcel, and then distinguishing their different degrees of goodness by making three parcels under each letter, and in this manner prepared them for packing, when there appeared a much greater equality in the different sortments of each letter than by any other method we could find after repeated and different trials. To every parcel thus re-sorted new valuation is affixed, calculated from the various prices at which the several merchants' cloth was prized of the same letter by the Governor and Council. But for a more distinct explanation of this we beg leave to subjoin an abstract of the soot romalls as prized that day, and an abstract of their prices when re-sorted after the prizing, by which it will appear this method no way affects or alters the real amount given to the merchants for their cloth or will occasion any difference in the general books, but rather fix a more equitable value on the goods when packed for Europe.

That this manner of assorting the investment may create an additional trouble to the warehouse keeper and his assistant, is a consideration of very little weight, provided it may answer the intent of our Honourable employers and remedy a defect they have repeatedly mentioned. The expense attending it will be trifling, an increase of a few more sorters whose wages will be fully compensated if this method should prove satisfactory. At least we hope the trial of it for a season will not be displeasing. The only objection that appears to us at present is our not being able by this method to write in the bale note the merchant's name who provided the cloth, as likewise the sorter who sorted the parcel. These are still preserved in the prize book in the usual manner, and will be transmitted as customary, but as the cloth is now re-sorted after the prizing by different hands from those who first sorted it and a bale probably composed of as many different merchants' cloth as there are pieces in the bale, it would be in a manner impossible to comply with our honourable masters' orders on this head, except by writing the merchant's name on every separate piece of cloth brought into the warehouse. But we hope this will not be deemed any neglect of our duty and flatter ourselves the re-sorting the cloth in this manner by different hands will be a further check on the sorters and obviate likewise any undue influence or connection the merchants may have with those people.

We are, with great respect,
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,
Your most obedient, humble servants,
C. MANNINGHAM,
E. W. Ho. Kr.
WILLIAM FRANKLAND,
Sub. E. W. Ho. Kr.

Calcutta,
The 17th December 1752.

Fort William, the 21st December 1752.
At a Consultation, Present:
The Hon'ble Roger Drake, Esq., *President.*
The Worshipful Edward H. Cruttenden.
Messieurs Manningham,
Becher,
Frankland,
Mackett,
Eyre,
Holwell.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 17th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

Received a letter from the gentlemen at Dacca dated the 10th instant accompanying their books balanced to the 30th April.

Received a letter from the gentlemen at Cossimbazar, dated the 17th December, advising that they shall fall greatly short in the Guzzerat silk, and as they have in the factory about 40 maunds of the November bund more than they contracted for, they desire us to acquaint them whether they shall take it or return it to the merchants. That Hookum Beg having been very pressing for the annual 3,600 sicca rupees paid him on account the Calcutta sugar merchants, they desire our permission to pay, as a further delay may occasion a stoppage to their business.

The President wanting money to supply the cash—

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to advance him M. Rs. 10,000.

Mr. Edward Eyre being arrived from Dacca now took his seat at the Board, and the oath of fidelity to the Hon'ble Company—

Ordered Mr. Mackett to deliver over to him the post of Register of the Dustucks.

Mr. John Cooke being arrived from Dacca was appointed Secretary in the room of Mr. McGuire, he having served in that office as Sub-Secretary for several years, and Mr. Summer was appointed to succeed Mr. John Cooke at Dacca factory.

The President thinks proper to confer the post of Millitary Paymaster on Mr. William James Harrod, on account of his great application and diligence in the Secretary's office.

Captain Carter sent in a letter to the Board requesting a survey on the *Chesterfield* within board.

Ordered it to be entered after this Consultation, and the Master Attendant to take with him the Hon'ble Company's carpenter and comply therewith.

Cancelled George Gray's note account Miss Isabella Gray, dated 10th December 1751, and renewed the same with interest thereon for a year, *viz.*:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
For Principal	11,920	0	0
Interest for a year is	1,072	12	9
	12,992	12	9

Agreed that we write to the gentlemen at Dacca to advise them we shall transmit their reply to our remarks on their investment to the Hon'ble Company for their observance. That we permit Mr. Wogan to come to Calcutta when the business will admit of his leaving Dacca, and having appointed Mr. Summer of Council in the room of Mr. Cooke, we direct that they admit him to his seat at their Board on his arrival—

Agreed that we write to the gentlemen at Cossimbazar and permit them to take the surplus November bund on our Hon'ble Master's account as we apprehend they will fall greatly short in the Guzzerat; that we direct them to send us musters of raw silk to be contracted on the ensuing season; and as we imagine this article may be purchased on more reasonable terms by entering into early contracts, and be procured of a better quality by the buyers being able to purchase the putney of the true November bund without any mixture of other sorts, we therefore desire their sentiments, as we shall be able to supply them with some money; that we have inspected the goods received some time ago and observe that they have prized them according as they fall from the musters in general, and direct them to be as expeditious as possible in forwarding down the remainder of the investment as it is prized. That we are surprised that Hookum Beg should demand the sum of Rs. 3,600, account the purchasers of sugar, when there has not been any provided this last season, and would have them use their utmost arguments in representing this hardship to him, and endeavour if possible to take off the annual demand.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.

Fort William, the 28th December 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*

THE WORSHIPFUL E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

MESSIEURS MANNINGHAM,
BECHER,
FRANKLAND,
MACKETT,
EYRE,
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 21st being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

The 22nd we received a letter from William Watts, Esq., Chief, &c., Council at Cossimbazar dated the 17th instant, accompanying 268 bales and chests on the Hon'ble Company's account, likewise the state of their factory to the 16th instant, with copy of their books, prize books to 30th April, musters of sixteen chests of plain taffaties, and manjees' receipts.

The 25th we received a letter from the gentlemen at Dacca dated 19th December referring us to a letter from Mr. Baillie concerning Ramnant Colly which he represents as unfit for a settlement there having been so much of the land tore away by the waters, that they think Luckipur, the place he mentions to be at a small distance from thence, may be as fit as any for the removal of the factory to it, as they do not conceive it will interfere with their investment for the Hon'ble Company.

The 27th we received a letter from the gentlemen at Dacca dated the 21st instant enclosing an indent for sundries wanted in the import warehouse, also an indent for military stores, likewise a letter from Jugdea.

Enclosed in the foregoing we received a letter from Messrs. Baillie and Playdell dated the 17th December advising of their having pitched on a place near Ramnant Colly for the removal of their factory, of which having advised the gentlemen at Dacca as soon as they find it agreeable they will write to us more particularly.

The President wanting money to supply the cash—

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to advance him ten thousand Madras Rupees (M. Rs. 10,000). A computation being made of the present value of the *Wager's* cargo now off shore, we find it amounts to something short of nine lakhs of rupees, and that 23 tons are wanted to complete the tonnage; and as our goods come in very slow and no bales remaining but very valuable ones, we therefore esteem it for our Hon'ble Masters' interest to turn the turmerick, cowries, and tincall into whole freight, as by that means we shall have done our utmost in answering their intentions of having an early ship and keeping the amount of the invoice within moderate bounds, as by filling her tonnage up with such bales as are in the warehouse the cargo will amount to upwards of ten lacks of rupees.

Captain Hindman demanding his Europe bill of lading, the same was now delivered up endorsed.

Captain Hindman lays before the Board the manifest of private trade laden on the *Wager* for Europe which being sworn—

Ordered it to be sent home in the packet.

The Deputy Master Attendant sent in his report survey of the *Chesterfield* within board—

Ordered it to be entered after this Consultation.

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to pay current rupees 314-14-6 to Mrs. Elizabeth Beard, being the interest on her note dated the 10th of December 1751 for current rupees 3,498-14-6, for which principal sum a note was now granted and the old note cancelled.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.

Fort William, the 29th December 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*
THE WORSHIPFUL E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
MESSIEURS MANNINGHAM,
BECHER,
FRANKLAND,
MACKETT,
EYRE,
HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 28th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

The Committee of Enquiry into the charge against Metre lay their proceedings before the Board, but the *Wager* now under despatch not admitting of our taking the same under due consideration—

Agreed to defer the same till after the despatch of this ship.

Mr. Holwell moves the Board that the state of the revenues as laid before them by him the 17th instant may be forwarded to the Company per *Wager*, as they have expressly ordered the same to be sent them the first conveyance—

Agreed that it be sent home though our daily business has been too much to afford time for a regular enquiry of matters therein set forth, in which if there are any contradictions the Company may be advised hereafter.

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to pay Ruttoo C. Rs. 25,000 account his contract for ready money goods.

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to pay Ruttoo's two notes they being now cancelled at the Board, *viz.* :—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
One dated 26th December 1751, for	2,975	9	0
Interest for 11 months and 22 days . . .	261	12	9
	3,236	13	6
One, dated 31st January 1751-1752, for	1,224	9	0
Interest for 10 months 18 days	97	5	6
	1,321	14	6

On the 26th instant Captain John Pinson departed this life of a fever, whereby the post of Master Attendant becoming vacant, Mr Cruttenden begs leave to observe as no successor is appointed by the Company, but only in general terms, that the Deputy do succeed if the Board thinks him a proper person.

That in case he is not thought so that the post ought to be supplied by one of the Council by way of Superintendent of the Marine till the Company's pleasure is known on this head, as he esteems it entirely for our Hon'ble Masters' interest to have a person appointed to so important a post of trust that must have other dependance on their favour than what arises on that place only, and it is natural to suppose he will take all possible care that those affairs require that the Company may have no cause of complaint in the administration of a trust which admits of so many abuses, and from these motives alone he begs leave to offer his service which he thinks can be done without any impropriety from his want of knowledge in the marine affairs, if he has a capable man for his Deputy, which he looks on the present person to be, he having been approved of as such by Captain Pinson.

Mr. Holwell is of opinion that as the post of Master Attendant is now vacant by the death of Captain Pinson, it should remain so till the Company's pleasure is known, and that in the meantime one of the Council be appointed to take charge of this service under the denomination of Superintendent of the Marine, and desires to enter the following reasons for such opinion, *viz.*, because he thinks when the authority of this post is lodged in one of the Board there will be much greater checks on the pilots, masters, syrangs, tindals, mates, &c., of the sloops, and in consequence a considerable diminution of the sundry articles expended, which he thinks lies too much at the discretion and mercy of those people to the great injury of our Hon'ble Masters. He likewise judges it no ways essential to the execution of this post that the possessor should absolutely be a seafaring man, as the laying the buoys, sounding the river, and observing the shifting the sands can with so much propriety be conducted by the Head Pilot and the Deputy to the Master Attendant, whom he believes, on enquiry we shall find, have generally been the acting persons in these cases. He also imagines this post is attended with a certain and fair gain, and therefore thinks our Hon'ble Masters would on a just representation to them rather indulge their covenanted servants in conferring this post to a Member of the Board, when so many of them are heads of offices attended with no gain or perquisite whatever, and when such confirmation would, he conceives, be evidently attended with no small reduction of the immediate expenses of the marine, which, with the repairs and making of the budgerows included, amounted last year to C. Rs. 86,058-1-9 and more in former years. He conceives too that the Company will by the next ship imported appoint a successor to Captain Pinson, so that we shall in the meantime experience how far the foregoing reasons have foundation, by pointing out the difference that may arise from investing this post on a Member of the Board, and be enabled to represent the same accordingly to our Hon'ble Masters, and as he thinks it may be annexed to the second's post with as much propriety as that of any other member, he has no objection to Mr. Cruttenden being appointed Superintendent of the Marine till the Company's reason is known.

Mr. Eyre is of the same opinion as Mr. Holwell.

Mr. Mackett is of opinion that the post ought to be vested in a seaman and is confirmed therein by the Company's orders appointing a seafaring man to succeed thereto.

Mr. Frankland is of opinion that the post ought to be filled up by a seaman, but as the Company have hitherto appointed a person to succeed to this office from home he has no objection to a Member of the Board taking charge of the same till the Company's pleasure is known, there being no approved Deputy in that post at present.

Mr. Becher is of Mr. Holwell's opinion.

Mr. Manningham is of opinion the office of Master Attendant would with more propriety be filled up by a seaman for the following reasons that the Hon'ble Company in their several nominations to this post have most frequently preferred profest and able seamen, and direct that in the case of a vacancy the Deputy provided he is properly qualified do succeed provisionally. Several branches of the duty belonging to the office of Master Attendant absolutely require a knowledge of maritime affairs, *viz.*, surveying and sounding the river, laying the buoys, surveying of ships on variety of occasions, reporting the condition of the sloops, making of pilots, masters, &c., and judging of their qualifications, all which are essential parts of this office and must if no seaman fills the same be entirely at the discretion of a Deputy, by which means the check intended on the Pilots, &c., will be considerably lessened, when the head of the office cannot judge of their merits or demerits but through the medium of a Deputy, for I presume it may be allowed without derogating from the merits of any person that none but a seaman can judge of the several particulars above mentioned. That advantage may accrue to the Company by one of the Members of Council being appointed to fill this vacancy provisionally, I think the advantages to the Company would be equal for, as I will suppose, the man so appointed to be a person of integrity, we may conclude the hopes of the Hon'ble Company's favour and preservation of his employ, together with a regard to his own character (a consideration for ever annexed to honesty) would render him sufficiently attentive to the duties of his office and the interest of his employers.

That the expenses of the Marine are exceeding heavy is very certain, as also the great consumption of stores may be liable to many abuses, but how this can be better regulated than by a seaman he cannot conceive, for no member of the Board can so well judge of the several indents made for the service of the sloops, &c., their propriety or consumption, as a person versed in the affairs of this nature, and who ought strictly to examine the same, and pass great part of his time at the dockhead to inspect narrowly into these particulars, as likewise to visit and examine every sloop and budgerow belonging to the Company or employed in their service.

That the post of Master Attendant is attended with a certain and fair gain is well known to every one, as likewise several members of the Board have no perquisites or advantages from their posts, but at the same time he humbly conceives a nomination of this nature would with more propriety come from our Hon'ble Masters, who may probably be displeased with our taking this or any other employ to ourselves without their previous consent, especially in the present instance, as their commands may in a few months arrive in answer to the supersession of Captain Ranson, when they may possibly think it necessary to regulate this office in a different manner. The President for the reasons set forth by Mr. Holwell sees no impropriety in appointing a member of the Board as Superintendent of the Marine till the Company's pleasure is known and therefore approves of Mr. Cruttenden being appointed.

The majority of the Board being of opinion that a member of the Board should be appointed Superintendent of the Marine till the Company's pleasure is known—

Agreed that Edward Holden Cruttenden, Esq., do take charge of that office.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*

E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

C. MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

W. FRANKLAND.

W. MACKETT.

Exd.—T. Y.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 112 F. D.—2 •12-91.—500.

Fort William, the 1st January 1753.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*
THE WORSHR. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.
MESSRS. CHARLES MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
WILLIAM FRANKLAND.
WILLIAM MACKETT.
EDWARD EYRE.
JOHN ZEPH. HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 29th ultimo was now read, approved, and signed.

The President wanting money to supply the cash.

Ordered, the Committee of Treasury to advance him three thousand Madras Rupees (M. Rs. 3,000).

Agreed, that the President do advance that sum to the Superintendent of the Marine for the Dockhead charges.

The Secretary lays before the Board the manifest of private trade laden on board the *Wager* as shown to by Captain Hindman before he went off shore.

Ordered him to transmit it in the Packet to Europe.

The General letters, invoices, with all papers necessary for the despatch of the *Wager* being prepared were now signed at the Board.

Ordered, the Secretary to close the Packet and Mr. Edward Eyre to proceed therewith down to Ingellee to get the Bills of Lading signed.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
EDWARD EYRE.
J. Z. HOLWELL.

Fort William, the 8th January 1753.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*
THE WORSHR. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.
MESSRS. CHARLES MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
WILLIAM FRANKLAND.
WILLIAM MACKETT.
EDWARD EYRE.
JOHN ZEPH. HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 1st instant was now read, approved, and signed.

The 4th instant we received a letter from the gentlemen at Cossimbazar advising us that they had taken the surplus November bund silk agreeably to our directions, that the putney not yet produced in any quantity sufficient to judge of the price, and that as the money amount the sugar has been annually paid whether any was provided or not. Huckembeg insists on payment, which if we should not comply with a stop to their business would certainly ensue.

On the 1st instant, we received a letter from the gentlemen at Jugdes, dated the 16th ultimo, enclosing Manjee's receipts for 192 bundles and 2 sucktaes of cloth dispatched to us under the care of a corporal and two soldiers.

The 7th instant, we received a letter from Mr. Nicholas Clerembault, Chief, &c., Council at Dacca, dated the 1st instant, enclosing one from the gentlemen at Jugdea, dated 29th December, advising us that they had pitched upon a place, in concurrence with the Deloll sent them from Dacca, by name Lukipore, in which they had the approbation of the gentlemen at that Factory, and that if it had the confirmation of this Board they would immediately set towards effecting it with what care and diligence they were masters of, and in order that they may have no impediment from the Government of Jugdea, they request us to apply to Muxadavad for a Perwannah for their settling at the aforesaid place, if upon trial they find it to be in a proper one; that they had enclosed us a declaration of the above Deloll of his being able with proper conveniences to carry on the Hon'ble Company's business of the Factory at this place, and that he can enlarge its investment to four lacks of rupees annually, which with the conveniency of being by the river-side, and out of the way of the Mairacs, will be establishing our affairs there in a much more advantageous course than they have hitherto been; that in regard to the expenses attending their removal agreeable to what they had formerly wrote us they would be but trifling.

Ordered, the above declaration of the Delolls to be translated into English and entered after this Consultation.

Mr. William McGuire informing the Board he has delivered over the several papers of the Secretary's Office to Mr. John Cooke, and intends setting out for Bulramgurry in a day or two.

Ordered, that the Annual Present for that place be sent down with him, and that—

The Committee of Treasury lade on board the *Belvidera* Sloop two chests of Madras Rupees for the use of that Residence.

Richard Becher, Esq., Buxey, wanting money for the current expenses of the Factory.

Agreed, he be advanced ten thousand Madras Rupees out of the cash.

The President wanting money for the use of the cash.

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to supply him with M. Rs. 10,000.

The Buxey now lays before the Board a list of timbers offered for sale, with the prices annexed thereto, for our approbation.

Ordered him to purchase them esteeming them very reasonable.

Mr. Edward Eyre being returned from the dispatch of the *Wager* reports to the Board that he delivered Captain Josiah Hindman his dispatches at Ingellee on the 5th instant, at which time she drew 18 feet 2 inches and 17 sabas, and now delivers in the following papers:—

This letter to the Hon'ble Court of Directors, dated the 5th.

Second and third Bills of Lading.

Muster-roll of the Ship's Company.

Report of the guns, &c., by Captain Richardman.

Captain Hindman's receipt for the packets.

The Store-keeper now brought in his own account for the month of October.

Ordered it to be delivered the Accomptant for examination.

The Buxey acquainting the Board that he finds a very great difficulty in procuring bricklayers for carrying on the Company's business on account of their smallness of their pay.

Agreed, that he augment their wages ten gundaes each per diem.

The Export Warehouse-keeper informs the Board that immediately after the arrival of the last party from Dacca, he sent down the river several light boats with divers, &c., were returned without success after sweeping that part of the river and narrowly searching the shore on each side for some distance on each side the creeks. However, as some days were passed after the loss of these boats before intelligence would be given to the Governor and Council, he apprehended the inhabitants of that part of the country near Baratolla might have been beforehand and recovered some part if not the whole of those bales, and accordingly gave strict charge to his servants to enquire diligently if any of this cloth was exposed to sale or should at any time be ordered to Calcutta, which has been attended with some success, having found in possession of different (chiefly Narraham Biswas) near one hundred pieces of cloth with the Company's mark thereon, much damaged by the salt water which he now produces to the Board and desires Narraham Biswas may be sent for to give an account in what manner he obtained the same, it appearing to him by the best intelligence he can gain an affair of much knavery and collusion. He adds that the reason why this affair was not sooner laid before the Board was the hopes of regaining some farther part of this cloth which might have been frustrated had he made the affair public on first notice, the several pieces now produced being taken on different people and at different times. All of whom have given security in the Cutchery for their personal appearance.

Ordered, they may be summoned to attend the Board on Thursday the 18th instant.

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
An interest note in the name of Joykissen being tendered for payment, dated the 10th April 1750, for principal	4,324	0	0
Interest for 2 years 8 months 16 days . . .	10,550	10	0
	53,790	10	0

Ordered, the Committee of Treasury to discharge the same, the note being cancelled at the Board.

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
An interest note in the name of Mr. John Zephr. Holwell being tendered for payment, dated 26th October 1752, for	8,509	8	6
Interest for 2 months 11 days	151	0	9
	8,660	9	8

Ordered, the Committee of Treasury to pay the same, the note being cancelled at the Board.

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Cancelled an interest note to Mr. Alexander Carvalhe, dated the 10th December 1751, for principal	5,450	0	0
Interest for 1 year	490	8	0
	5,940	8	0

Renewed the same with interest thereon for a year.

The Import Warehouse-keeper now brought in the reports of lead and copper per ships *Admiral Vernon* and *Chesterfield*, in which the following deficiencies—

	Mds.	Seers.	Ch.	Mds.	Seers.	Ch.
Copper per *Admiral Vernon*	7	34	0			
,, ,, *Chesterfield*	14	28	4	22	22	4
Lead ,, *Admiral Vernon*				5	35	0

Ordered him to demand the amount thereof from the respective Captains, and his report to be entered after this Consultation.

The Export Warehouse-keeper lays his bill before the Board for cowries purchased, on account the Hon'ble Company amounting to Rs. 5,000.

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to pay the same.

Ordered the Import Warehouse-keeper to deliver out goods bought at outcry to the amount of Current Rs. 1,076-2-3, that sum being accounted as follows:—

	C. Rs.	a	p.
Omichand's account debited for	9,617	8	9
Rada Kissen Mullick's ditto	1,146	9	6
	10,764	2	3

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior*.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
EDWARD EYRE.
J. Z. HOLWELL.

At a Consultation, Present:

The Hon'ble Roger Drake, Esq., President.
The Worshr. Edward Holden Cruttenden, Esq.
Messrs. Charles Manningham.
Richard Becher.
William Frankland.
William Mackett.
Edward Eyre.
John Zeph. Holwell.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 8th instant being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

On the 10th instant we received a letter from the gentlemen at Dacca, dated the 4th, enclosing invoice of 61 bales of cloth and on bundle of musters amounting to Current Rs. 81,555-1-6 dispatched to us that day under the care of Sergeant William Starke, a Corporal, and eight men.

The Export Warehouse-keeper acquainting the Board that Captain Edmund Cooke had refused taking the cowries directed to be laden on board the *Admiral Vernon*, Captain Cooke was now called in and asked his reasons why he refused lading the cowries on board his ship. He replied they were always attended with a prodigious loss by pilferage, &c., which his owners, &c., were obliged to make good, that it kept the ship from being cleared many days after her cargoe was unloaded, and that the Hon'ble Company by washing and picking them made them turn out very short in weight; these reasons put together rendered it rather prejudicial to his owners than advantageous, and therefore he did not choose to receive any on his ship.

Our Hon'ble Masters having expressly directed ten tons of cowries to be laden on each of their ships homeward bound, we ordered the Secretary to prepare a protest against Captain Cooke for refusing to take any on board the *Admiral Vernon.*

Captain Richard Drake sent in a request for 4 nine-pounders for the security of his ship in his country voyage.

Ordered the Military Store-keeper to comply with his request and that it be entered after this Consultation.

The Buxey delivers in the charges general for November with the vouchers for the several disbursements therein contained.

Ordered the Accomptant to examine it.

The President now brought in the cash account for the month of December, the balance of which was Current Rs. 570-6 in the following species, *viz.*:—

	M.Rs.	a.	p.	M.Rs.	a.	p.
Madras	518	0	0			
Batta 10 per cent.	51	12	9			
	569	12	9			
Cowries	0	9	3	570	6	0

Ordered the same to pass, errors excepted and to be entered after this Consultation.

Four months' ground rent being demanded by the Phousdar of Hughley and the same being due the 31st ultimo, *viz.*—

	M.Rs.	a.	p.
Calcutta	325	0	0
Govendpore Picar	70	0	0
Govindpore, Calcutta	30	0	0
Indies	1	8	0
	426	8	0

Ordered the President to pay the same out of the cash.

Captain Paul Philip Polier now attended the Board and represent that his men were daily deserting from the place, having lost within eight or ten days sixteen of his soldiers, some of whom were of his own town and men whom he thought he would have placed the greatest confidence in; that the French by indirect methods entice them away and send them to Pondicherry; that the open situation of the town makes it impossible for him to prevent them going off, and he is apprehensive the rest may follow their example very shortly if not timely prevented, and therefore proposes that the Company's intentions of sending out these soldiers may not be entirely frustrated, and the expense they have been at on that account rendered fruitless to reconduct them to the coast, where they may be better kept from deserting and render our Hon'ble Masters more service.

Having taken this proposal into consideration, and thinking it for the Company's interest that they should be returned to the coast to prevent their deserting to the French—

Agreed that Captain Polier do reconduct his officers and men thither on the *Godolphin*, Captain Hutchinson.

Mr. Holwell informing the Board that Captain Edmund Cooke refused to receive four small casks of mangoes sent as a present from Mr. Watts to his friends though he had given a permit for them—

Ordered the Secretary to direct Captain Cooke to receive them on board.

Dr. *Fort William. Cash Account of the Hon'ble Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies for the month of December 1752.* **Cr.**

		M. Rs.	M. Rs.	a.	p.
	To Balance . .	...	998	7	3
4	To Treasury Office— Received from thence per order of Company this day	10,000			
	Batta, 10 per cent.	1,000	11,000	0	0
	To account current, London, received of Mr. Hampton for his passage money to Europe . . .	...	96	0	0
11	To Treasury Office— Received from thence per order this day . .	23,000			
	Batta, 10 per cent.	2,300	25,300	0	0
21	To Treasury Office— Received from thence per order this day . .	10,000			
	Batta, 10 per cent. .	1,000	11,000	0	0
28	To Treasury Office— Received from thence per order this day . .	10,000			
	Batta, 10 per cent. .	1,000	11,000	0	0
	Current Rs. .		59,394	7	3

		M. Rs.	M. Rs.	a.	p.
4	By Charles Maningham, Esq., E. W. K^{r}., advanced him to pay the charges of his office	10,000			
	Batta, 10 per cent. .	1,000	11,000	0	0
	By Mayor's Court charges paid Mr. Nalicourt, Sheriff, the allowance due to him and his officers for November	...	124	2	3
	By Mayor's Court charges paid Mr. Parker the fees due to him as Registrar in the cause between the Governor and Council and Captain Ranson . .	...	157	12	6
	By ditto ditto on account Deepchand Deposit paid Mr. Parker, Registrar, the fees due to him on account of a petition of the Governor and Council, account Deepchand Deposit	...	26	2	6
11	By Richard Beecher, Esq., advanced him to defray the expenses of the Factory	20,000			
	Batta, 10 per cent. .	2,000	22,000	0	0
	By Captain Pinson, Master Attendant, advanced him to defray the expense of the pilots and seamen, monthly pay	3,000			
	Batta, 10 per cent. .	300	3,300	0	0
21	By Richard Becher, Esq., Buxey, advanced him to defray the Factory expenses	10,000			
	Batta, 10 per cent. .	1,000	11,000	0	0
23	By account Revenues paid the Hooghly annual cash .	...	216	0	0
	By Richard Becher, Esq., Buxey, advanced him to defray the Factory expenses	10,000			
	Batta, 10 per cent. .	1,000	11,000	0	0
			58,824	1	3
	By Balance . .	...	570	6	0
	Current Rs. . .	...	59,394	7	3

FORT WILLIAM,
The 31st December 1752.

Errors Excepted,
P. ROGER DRAKE, *Jr.*

Fort William, the 15th January 1753.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*

THE WORSHP. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.

MESSRS. CHARLES MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

WILLIAM FRANKLAND.

WILLIAM MACKETT.

EDWARD EYRE.

JOHN ZEPH. HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 11th instant being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

William Hutchison for C. Rs. 9,996-12-3, payment to Captain James Braton, or order is £41,224-14-8.

A sett to Edward Eyre, Esq., for C. Rs. 444-7, payment to Richard Eyre, Esq., or order is £450.

Mr. John Wood sent in a petition to the Board setting forth that he was surprized to hear we refused signing a pass for a vessel of his last Council day; that as the vessel was now almost ready to sail, he must again request the pass may be granted; that he begged leave to observe the Hon'ble Company had thought proper to allow him all the privileges of a free merchant in India, *viz.*, to dwell at either of the Presidencys with free liberty to use any trade or commerce in the way of a merchant within the limits of their charter. That the objection he had heard of free merchants not being entitled to a pass is unless he goes to sea himself, was groundless, especially if it is considered that it seems equally cogent against a Company's servant having a pass when their indentures were impartially compared; that as the giving Dustick to a free merchant is annulled, if granting a pass is also refused, the privilege of a free merchant is reduced to that of a foreigner or indeed of the meanest black fellow, which he humbly presumes was never intended by the Hon'ble Company when they granted those Indentures; that a great and unavoidable loss must happen if this pass is refused, which he thinks he ought not to sustain, and therefore he hopes we shall but think it reasonable to comply with his request and grant him a pass for the *Bonetta Ketch.*

Having duly considered the contents of this petition, the opinion of the Board was thereupon required, when—

Mr. Holwell gave it as his opinion that neither Mr. Wood or any free merchant is entitled to a pass by the tenour of their Indentures, for if that is admitted, a free merchant by lending his name only without any capital of his own and by the assistance and concern of the natives may always set voyages afoot to the utter destruction of the trade of the Settlement in general and a certain injury to every gentleman in the service, which he is convinced was never the intention of our Hon'ble Masters. He thinks besides that the foreign trade of the Settlement is now become by much too general to the injury of each individual, and calls loudly for every laudable and just measure in our power to restrain the same within necessary bounds. The Indentures of a free merchant in his opinion entitles him only to the same liberties and indulgences of trade enjoyed by the natives under the Company's protection, which indulgences he thinks are very extraordinary, and that restraining them from passes by no means excludes them from trading to any port within the Company's limits.

Mr. Eyre is of the same opinion as Mr. Holwell.

Mr. Mackett is of opinion that free merchants from the tenour of their Indentures have a right to a pass when the Board can grant one without prejudice to the Hon'ble Company's affairs or to their Settlement in general.

Mr. Frankland thinks that the intent and design of free merchants' Indentures is to grant the persons indulged with them by our Hon'ble Masters their leave and protection to reside in India, and to entitle them to all the liberties and indulgences of trade to all parts and ports of India as enjoyed by the natives under their protection, and that they are the persons meant by our Hon'ble Masters to have their leave for residing in India appears from their so frequently ordering us to send home all such as are not entitled to their protection, but he does not conceive that Mr. Wood by the tenour of his Indentures is either entitled to dustick or a pass as he is pleased to think he is, but that the power of granting them is by our Hon'ble Masters lodged in their President with the advice of His Council, for every free merchant entitled to a pass might always with the greatest ease procure voyage to be set afoot to the utter destruction of the trade of the Settlement in general and a certain injury to every gentleman in the service, which he is convinced was never the intention of our Hon'ble Masters, and he is confirmed in this his opinion by our Hon'ble Masters' letter of the 17th June 1748, where they are pleased to grant the indulgence of enjoying the benefit of the dusticks to their own immediate covenanted servants, nor can he conceive a pass (which is a thing of so great consequence and of which we have lately seen so ill an use made with regard to the *Mary*, and as the Board no longer ago than the 9th October found it necessary to lay the granting them under great restrictions) ought to be granted to any person but with the greatest caution, much less than every person that has the Company's protection to reside here has a right to demand them by being entitled to them as his dues.

Mr. Becher is of opinion that as the Company have thought proper to grant Mr. Wood the privilege of a free merchant, by whose Indentures there is the same privilege of trade as a Company's servant which they have since restricted in relation to the dusticks and freight, but as they have never forbid their having a pass, he thinks he has an undoubted right to one.

Mr. Manningham gave it as his opinion that even allowing free merchants entitled to demand a pass, yet he presumes the President and Council have a discretionary power of granting or refusing the same as circumstances present, and entirely agrees with Mr. Holwell in his reasons for the necessity of bringing the foreign trade under some proper limitations. He likewise begs leave to refer to the minutes of Council under date the 9th October, which was founded on a belief that some improper uses had been made of passes; the transactions on board the *Mary* on the Malabar Coast last season will likewise demonstrate the necessity of our being more cautious and circumspect in the use of this privilege.

M.r Cruttenden is of opinion neither Mr. Wood or any free merchants has the title to a pass, but a right from the Board, as the footing Mr. Wood's letter puts the present affair on, would be giving up the trade of the Settlement to the absolute prejudice and ruin of the Honourable Company's Covenanted servants, a presumption he cannot without a further explanation from home think they are indulged with, and therefore does not consent to comply with the contents of Mr. Wood's letter.

The President is of opinion that free merchants by the tenour of their Indentures have a title to a pass, but that it is in the breast of the Board to retain the liberty of their trade if thought prejudicial to the Settlement in general.

The majority of the Board being of opinion that no free merchants are entitled to demand a pass as their right—

Agreed, that no pass in future be granted to any such; and

Ordered the Secretary to put up our resolutions at the Fort Gates in writing; but in consideration Mr. Wood may have been in an error not believing any objection of this nature would be made, and having purchased the ship and cargoe which would greatly detriment his fortune if a pass was refused resolved to grant Mr. Wood his request for this vessel and his petition to be entered after this Consultation.

Having laden on the *Admiral Vernon* what bales and saltpetre we designed to have put on her, and the general letters, invoices, and other papers necessary for her despatch being signed at the Board—

Ordered, Mr. William Sumner to repair down to Ingellee and get the Bills of Lading signed, and give Captain Cooke his despatches, and advise the Governor and Council of Fort St. George of the time he despatched her, with her draught of water, and what else may be necessary; and

Agreed, that we write to the gentlemen of Fort St. George by this ship advising them of the receipt of their several letters per *Oxford, Bombay Castle, Chesterfield*; that we now consign them the *Admiral Vernon,* Captain Edmund Cooke, to be filled up at that place, and that in a few days more we shall dispatch the *Chesterfield* likewise half laden, that as they have desired the *Bombay Castle* may be sent to take in the surplus pepper, the gentlemen at Fort Malbro' have advised them they shall have ready. We shall despatch from hence very shortly to that purpose. That the Swiss Company of soldiers under the command of Captain Paul Philip Polier deserting from us daily, we are come to a resolution of returning them the coast where this inconvenience may be better guarded against than at this place by reason of our open situation on the *Godolphin,* Captain Hutchison, who will be consigned to them with a cargoe of grain on our Hon'ble Masters' account.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*

E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

C. MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

W. FRANKLAND.

W. MACKETT.

EDWARD EYRE.

J. Z. HOLWELL.

To the HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, Esq., President and Governor of Fort William, &c., Council.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,

Last Council day I heard with much concern that a pass presented on my account for the *Bonetta Ketch* to the Gulf of Persia was refused to be sign'd. But as the vessel is now almost ready to sail (most part of her cargoe being on board or ready to ship off), I must again request that the pass may be granted, and as I apprehend the refusal was entirely owing to some error in my way of applying for it, or to some wrong information, give me leave to observe first that the Hon'ble Company have thought proper to allow me all the privilege of a free merchant in India, *viz.*, I dwell here or in Bombay or Madras, with free liberty to use any trade or commerce in the way of a merchant, or otherwise in any *commodity,* and to and from any ports within the limits of their charter.

That trading in the way of a merchant or otherwise seems plainly to imply either to act as a principal ashore or to go to sea as a Factor, Supercargo or Commander.

That therefore the objection (which I have heard) of a free merchant not being entitled to a pass except he goes to sea himself is groundless, especially if it be considered that it seems equally cogent against a Company's servant having a pass when their Indentures are impartially compared.

That though by my Indentures I am seemingly entitled to request dusticks for inland trade and to carry freight to any port in India, yet as I am by the same covenant subjected to any other regulations the Hon'ble Company shall think fit to make, and as I am informed they have prohibited free merchants from having dusticks, and given all freight entirely to Your Honour and Council, I entirely relinquish both one and the other.

That thus far I thougt it incumbent upon me to offer to Your Honour, &c., in regard to matter of right, to which let me add to the consideration of Your Honour and the Board that it is not my case alone that is now determining but that of all free merchants.

That as the giving dusticks is annulled, if granting a pass is also refused, the privilege of a free merchant is reduced to that of a foreigner or indeed of the meanest black fellow, *viz.*, only to trade in the Company's land dusticks or to go to sea if they have interest enough, which they all can do, and which I humbly presume is a much narrower bound than was ever intended by the Hon'ble Company for free merchants; 'tis indeed reducing it to almost nothing, whereas the Hon'ble Company that grants and those who sollicit and receive those Indentures think them valuable; let me add that a great unavoidable loss must happen if this pass is refused which, I think, I ought not to sustain.

I will trouble Your Honour, &c., no longer, but only beg what I have here urged may be kindly considered, and then I flatter myself Your Honour, &c., will think it very reasonable to grant my request of a pass for the *Bonetta Ketch* to the Gulf of Persia, which will particularly oblige,

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient servant,

JOHN WOOD.

CALCUTTA,
The 15th January 1753.

Fort William, the 18th January 1753.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*

THE WORSHR. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.

MESSRS. CHARLES MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
WILLIAM FRANKLAND.
WILLIAM MACKETT.
EDWARD EYRE.
JOHN ZEPH. HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.
The Consultation of the 15th was now read, approved, and signed.

The Import Warehouse-keeper now brought in the account remains and indent of goods wanted anno 1753.

Ordered, they lay on the table for examination.

He likewise laid before the Board the Report Survey of woollen goods per *Bombay Castle.*

Ordered him to demand the amount of the damage from Captain Thomas Brown, and his report to be entered after this Consultation.

He likewise delivered in the amount sales of sundrys out of the Retail Godown for the month of November amounting to C. Rs. 3,290-9-9. Particulars, *viz.*—

	Yds.		C. Rs.	a.	p.
Broad-cloth by retail	98	8	681	11	0
Ditto aurora by retail	5	12	19	6	4
Ditto ordinary ditto	39	8	88	14	0
Velvetts ditto	11	14	99	13	0
Triere ditto	3	0	6	12	0
Brocade ditto	3	12	84	6	0
Perpets, broad	21	14	27	5	6
Scarlet duffill	12	0	60	0	0
Perpets, ordinary	4	1	3	8	0
Allupeen	15	0	30	0	0
Flannell	23	4	26	2	6
Duroys in Ps. 4			34	0	0
Broad-cloth, fine, in Ps. 16			1,242	11	9
Ditto ordinary, in Ps. 18			866	15	6
Perpets, ordinary, in P. 1			19	0	0
			3,290	9	9

Ordered the said account to pass, errors excepted, the amount C. Rs. 3,290-9-9 being paid into the Treasury.

Ordered the President to pay out of the cash the amount of charges in the Import Warehouse for the month of November now delivered in by the Warehouse-Keeper being C. Rs. 2,112-15-6.

The President and Council of Fort St. George having wrote very pressingly for gunpowder—

Agreed the Adjutant be sent to Hughley to make enquiry if any can be purchased there.

The Export Warehouse-Keeper informing the Board that the turmerick we formerly purchased is greatly inferior to muster—

Agreed, it be returned on that account.

The Collector of the Consulage acquaints the Board that on his levying the usual consulage 2 per cent. on goods purchased at and brought from Patna great complaints were made, those goods having come down by the King's perwannah and paid the Government's duty already, which are very exorbitant and occasions a further charge of 2 per cent. to be insupportable.

Having considered this complaint and esteeming it equitably as they cannot be brought into the place at present by our Dusticks, we are of opinion it is too great a hardship.

Fort William, the 22nd January 1753.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*

THE WORSHR. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.

MESSRS. CHARLES MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
WILLIAM FRANKLAND.
WILLIAM MACKETT.
EDWARD EYRE.
JOHN ZEPH. HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 18th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

Mr. William Sumner being returnd from the *Admiral Vernon* report the dispatch of that ship from Ingellee, the 19th instant, when she drew 16½ feet upon an even———. He likewise delivered the following papers:—

Copy of his letter to the President and Council of Fort St. George.

Muster Roll of the Ship's Company.

Admiral Vernon, 2nd and 3rd Bills of Lading.

Deputy Master Attendants report of the guns, &c.

Copy of a Protest delivered by Captain Cooke for having nine guns deficient.

Captain Cooke's Receipt for the Packett.

Yesterday we received a letter from the gentlemen at Dacca enclosed Manjis's receipts for 61 bales and 1 bundle of cloth.

Captain Thomas Brown sent in a letter to the Board, requested the damage of his woolen goods might be dispensed with by us or refer home to the Hon'ble Company, on account of the stress of weather he met with off the eastern sands, at which time he and his officers protested in form, copy whereof he enclosed; and that as his metals had never been moved in his ship till they were taken out to be landed here, he apprehended some mistake in the invoice or that some roguery has been committed by the black fellows at this place. He therefore desired this might likewise be referred home and his Bill of Lading delivered.

Ordered the said letter and copy of his protest be entered after this Consultation.

Having considered the contents of Captain Brown's letter and esteeming his protest of no validity now (the goods having been surveyed and no notice been ever taken of them till this juncture)—

Ordered the Secretary to acquaint him of our opinion and inform him that unless he accounts for his damage and deficienciess with agreeable to the Hon'ble Company's orders for that purpose, his Bill of Lading will not be delivered up.

The Adjutant being returned from Hughley with a muster of powder, and the Commandant having certified to the Board that he has made trial of it and thinks it pretty good—

Agreed, that he be sent up with Rs. 4,000 to purchase it, the price being very reasonable.

The Military Store-keeper now brought in his account for the month of December.

Ordered the Accomptant to examine it; and

Ordered the President do advance him M. Rs. 3,000 out of the cash.

Thomas Coales, Esq., Sheriff, now sent in his bill for the allowances due to him and his officers for the month of December amounting to C. Rs. 120-2-3.

Ordered the President do pay the same out of the cash.

Having but a small quantity of gunpowder in garrison and esteeming the salutes of our own country ships expensive and unnecessary—

Resolved that in future the fort return no salutes to any of our country ships.

Captain Stevens of the *Oxford* having requested 20 tons of saltpetre (exclusive of Charter Party Tonnage) for the stiffning his ship, and the gentlemen at the coast having wrote very pressingly for powder, which we cannot supply them with (there being scarce any in the garrison and no saltpetre to make any)—

Agreed, that the purchase the quantity of 1,500 bags now offered us from Chandernagur notwithstanding the price is so high as it is not procurable elsewhere and our present occasions very pressing.

Cancelled and renewed an interest note in the name of Messrs. Watts and Amyatt, dated the 2nd December 1751 for P. Rs. 12,000

Interest, 1 year . . . „ „ 1,080

——— 13,080

The Accomptant lays before the Board the account earninge of the Hon'ble Company's sloop to the 30th April last with their several open account current, which having been usefully examined, and the Superintendent of the Marine consulted in regard to the present value of each sloop, which being inserted and the difference wrote off to profit and loss the accounts were closed.

Ordered them to be entered after this Consultation.

Mir Abzed at Patna having wrote a letter to the President, he lays it before the Board, the contents of which are that he has hitherto taken care of our Factory and paid the peon's wages, but has never been reimbursed; that our Factory is in a very bad condition and daily growing worse for want of repair; that Pundgumsing and other peons are now going down to receive the wages due to them, who will inform us more particularly, and desires our orders if the Factory is to be repaired or not.

Ordered the President to pay to Patna peons 14 months' wages (due to them) by Bill of Exchange as negociated last year.

Granted two setts of bills to Mr. George Gray—one payable to Messrs. Johnstone and Totheringham for £120-7-6 or Rs. 1,069-15-9; the other payable to Mr. Henry Allen or order for £955-16-10 or Rs. 8,496-6, which sums were made good as follows:—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Endorsed off a note to Messrs. Gray and Fullerton, dated 23rd March, for P. Rs. 4,815-4-9	4,815	4	9
Endorsed off a note to Mr. George Gray, dated 24th June, for Rs. 1,110-8-6	1,110	8	6
Endorsed off a note to Mr. George Gray, dated 18th July, for P. Rs. 4,000	2,570	8	9
Endorsed off a note to Messrs. Gray and Graham, dated the 21st December 1752, for P. Rs. 12,992-12-9 . .	1,069	15	9
Total .	9,566	5	9

Granted the following Bills of Exchange to the underwritten persons, the amount being paid into the Treasury, *viz.*—

To Captain Sam Lutton for £———, payable to Captain Best or order at two-thirds, is Rs. 388.

To Mr. Peter Amyatt for £3,466-10-6 payable to William Barwell, Esq., or order at two-thirds, is Rs. 30,813-8-9.

To Captain Paul Philip Polier for £40 payable to Mr. James Sassier or order at two-thirds, is Rs. 355-9.

To Mr. Thomas Cooke for £90 payable to Mr. Miles Barnes or order at two-thirds, is Rs. 800.

To ditto for £38-15, payment to Captain Richard Thelwall or order at two-thirds, is Rs. 300.

To Mr. Peter Amyatt for £43-7-10, payment to Mr. Barwell, Esq., or order at two-thirds, is Rs. 385-11-6.

To Mr. Richard Becher for £80, payment to Mr. David Findlay or order at two-thirds, is Rs. 711-1-9.

The following notes being rendered for payment, *viz.*—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.	C. Rs.	a.	p.
One to Govindram Bauboo, dated the 8th January 1751 for	3,815	0	0			
Interest, 1 year and 3 days	346	3	3			
				4,161	3	3
One to Messrs. Watts and Amyatt, account Wm. Barwell, Esq., dated 14th May, for P. Rs.	6,237	8	6			
Interest, 7 months 27 days	369	9	3			
				6,607	1	9
One to ditto ditto account ditto, dated 9th April 1752	799	8	3			
Interest, 9 months 2 days	54	6	0			
				853	14	3
One to ditto ditto account ditto, dated 7th May	1,384	6	9			
Interest, 8 months 4 days	84	7	3			
				1,468	14	0
One to Gochurn, dated 27th December 1750 for	1,000	0	0			
Interest, 12 years and 14 days	183	8	0			
				1,183	8	0
				14,274	9	0

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to pay the same, the interest notes being now cancelled at the Board.

Ordered the Committee of Treasury likewise to pay Messrs. William Watts and Peter Amyatt the sum of Rs. 21,885-10-9, that sum being ended off their note, dated the 9th April 1752, for P. Rs. 23,822-12.

Having laden on the *Durrington* what saltpetre had left and all her freight being on the way down to her—

Agreed, Mr. Thomas Bellamy do proceed to *Ingellee* to get her Bills of Lading signed and give Captain Drakes his despatches, and that we write to the President and Council of Bombay by her, that we have laden in her 3,072 bags of saltpetre as per Invoice and Bill of Lading amounting to C. Rs.———; that there is 360 bags short of what they indented for, but that we thought it more advisable to send her away without them than to detain her for so small a quantity; that we are in great want of gunpowder for the use of our own garrison, and the gentleman at the coast have wrote pressingly to be supplied with some from hence, and therefore we repeat our request for a large quantity as soon as they can send it us. That we request they will forward by any good conveyances what surplus cash they can spare as early as possible for the benefit of our investment the ensuing year; that we desire they will detain this ship no longer than is absolutely necessary.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*

E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

C. MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

W. FRANKLAND.

W. MACKETT.

EDWARD EYRE.

J. Z. HOLWELL.

Fort William, the 24th January 1735.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*

THE WORSHR. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.

MESSRS. CHARLES MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

WILLIAM FRANKLAND.

WILLIAM MACKETT.

EDWARD EYRE.

JOHN ZEPH. HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 22nd instant being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

Mr. John Knox Holder of the Arrack Farm sent in a petition to the Board setting forth the hardships he laboured under by the excessive dearness of rice and jaggaree at present in the place, by reason whereof he had been almost deprived of any rent for his arrack of late, several of the sellers being reduced to the necessity of shutting up their shops; that he was in a manner deprived of the usual advantages of supplying the shipping by the late large importation and low price of Bataira arrack, from all which he is apprehensive he may become insolvent and unable to pay the Company's license, and therefore he lays his case before the Board that some measures may be taken to prevent the Company being any sufferers by him.

Ordered, his petition to be entered after this Consultation, and Mr. Knox being sent for was directed to make a statement upon oath of the difference of the price of rice, jaggaree, &c., now and in former years, with the present consumption and that of some years past.

Fort William, the 1st February 1753.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*

THE WORSHR. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.

MESSRS. CHARLES MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

WILLIAM FRANKLAND.

WILLIAM MACKETT.

EDWARD EYRE.

JOHN ZEPH. HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 30th January being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

This morning we received a letter from Mr. W. McGuire, dated at Bulramgurry, the 24th January, acquainting us of his having taken charge of that Factory as delivered over by Mr. Kelsall and the two chests of treasure forwarded by us on the *Belvidera* sloop; that he had sent to Olmorra for the musters of the goods procurable there; that he was in immediate want of a long boat, and requested we should supply him with one, and that several of the weavers who resided at Ballasore have brought their looms into the Factory, and the few who remain declare they shall be obliged to throw in theirs and quit the place on account of the great scarcity of rice and provisions of all kinds occasioned by the devastations of the Morattoes, on which account he desires we will send him 1,500 or 2,000 maunds of rice on the Hon'ble Company's account.

Fort William, the 5th February 1753.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*

THE WORSHR. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.

MESSRS. CHARLES MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

WILLIAM FRANKLAND.

WILLIAM MACKETT.

EDWARD EYRE.

JOHN ZEPH. HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 1st instant being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

The Superintendent of the Marine lays before the Board the account of the Hon'ble Company's Marine expenses for December.

Ordered the Accomptant to examine it.

The Import Warehouse-Keeper delivers in his account of goods sold at retail in the month of December, particulars, *viz.*—

	Yds.	C. Rs.	a.	p.
Broad-cloth, fine, by retail	70-12	575	2	0
Broad-cloth, ordinary	5-8	12	6	0
Velvets	150-14	1,300	11	9
Brocade	0-8	20	0	0
Broad perpets, fine	8-0	16	0	0
Broad ditto, ordinary	37-0	46	4	0
Flannel, by retail	17-10	20	5	3
Frieze	2-8	5	10	0
Perpets, fine	12-0	18	0	0
Duroys, 3 prs.	...	48	0	0
Carpets, 1	...	65	0	0
Broad-cloth, fine, 4 prs.	...	254	8	0
		2,381	15	0

The Export Warehouse-Keeper informing us of the delay of the merchants in bringing in their cloth, we sent for them and enquired why they were so late this year before they delivered in the amount of their contracts? To which they replied that their goods had left the Aurungs a great while, and would have arrived here in proper time, had not the exorbitant exactions of the Chokeys occasioned them to make this delay: that what used formerly to come down in ten days was now twenty days on its way. But that they were in hopes the goods would arrive soon enough to be shipped on the board the *Oxford.*

Fort William, the 22nd February 1753.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*

THE WORSHR. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.

MESSRS. CHARLES MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

WILLIAM FRANKLAND.

WILLIAM MACKETT.

EDWARD EYRE.

JOHN ZEPH. HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 19th being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

This morning we received a letter from the gentlemen at Dacca enclosing their papers for Europe.

Thomas Coales, Esq., Sheriff, sent in his bill for allowances due to him and his officers for December amounting to C. Rs. 130—

Agreed, the President do pay the same out of the cash.

The Adjutant now delivered in his account current of gunpowder purchased for the use of Madras Presidency.

Ordered it to be entered after this Consultation, the balance being paid him out of the cash.

Mr. Peter Amyatt being returned from the dispatch of the *Chesterfield* sent in a letter to the Board reporting his proceedings therein, and informing us that on his return he met with a severe gale of wind off the River Hulda which drove the *Cossr* Budgrow (in which he went down) from her anchors upon a lee-shor, where they were obliged to leave her. And that he was afterwards informed the *Lion* Budgrow (who could not reach the ship) was aground on Kedjeree Point.

Ordered, his letter be entered after this Consultation; and

Directed the Superintendent of the Marine to send down proper assistance to recover those Budgrows if possible.

Having taken into consideration Mr. Holwell's motion of last Council day about sending a junior servant to Patna Factory, we are of opinion the sending any one or two persons thither can be of no benefit to the Company, but on the contrary make us liable to the exaction of what these country people term yearly presents. Therefore, unless our Hon'ble Masters should think proper to order the re-establishment of that Factory whereby they may benefit by trade, we do not esteem it for their interest at present to send any one up.

The Export Warehouse-Keeper acquainting the Board that the people on whom the Company's cloth that was lost coming from Dacca was taken, were attending without, we sent for them in and

Narraton Biswass being asked how he came by those pieces that were found on him, replied that a mangee brought him bundle of cloth which he advanced him 180 rupees upon, but had never examined the cloth, nor knew that it belonged to the Company.

The Mangee being then called in was asked, where he got this cloth and why carried it to Naraton Biswass, to which he answered, that he found it off Barratola, brought it up here and carried part of it to Naraton Biswass's house (who was his neighbour). That he took up of him Rs. 180 on that account, Rs. 80 of which and 10 pieces of cloth he divided among his dandies, which they afterwards sold to Severam and Monderam for a trifle.

As it seems very clear to us that Naraton Biswass would never have advanced any money upon a deposit from a Mangee without first examining if it was of a value equal to what he lent, and therefore could not avoid seeing the Company's mark on the cloth, which case he ought to have given proper information to the Warehouse-Keeper.

Agreed, he be fined the value of the cloth found on him if he does not within the space of a month trace out where the remainder of the cloth left on its way from Dacca is, and in such a manner as to be by us recoverable.

Agreed, likewise, that Severam and Monderam make good to the Company the value of the 10 pieces of cloth they bought from the dandies. And that the Mangee do refund the Rs. 180 he received of Naraton Biswass; and

Ordered the Jemindar to take them into confinement till they have paid their several fines.

Fort William, the 15th March 1753.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*
THE WORSHR. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.
MESSRS. CHARLES MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
WILLIAM FRANKLAND.
WILLIAM MACKETT.
EDWARD EYRE.
JOHN ZEPH. HOLWELL.

The Standing Orders laying on the Table.

This being the day appointed for the sale of the Hon'ble Company's woolen goods, &c., they were accordingly put up on the usual established terms at the following prices, being 15 per cent. on the invoice from Europe, *viz.*—

	Rs.	a.	p.	
Broad-cloth, ordinary	48	0	0	per piece.
Perpets, ordinary, of different colours . . .	18	0	0	do.
Broad perpets, fine	47	12	0	do.
Do. do. ordinary	31	0	0	do.

But there being no bidders on any of them at those prices, and our Hon'ble Masters in the 42nd paragraph of their commands per *Godolphin*, under date the 8th January 1752, having directed they should not be sold under the above premium of 15 per cent. on the invoice from Europe.

Agreed, they be kept for the present and try'd again some time hence when a better prospect of sale may offer.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior*.

E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

C. MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

W. FRANKLAND.

W. MACKETT.

EDWARD EYRE.

J. Z. HOLWELL.

Fort William, the 23rd April 1753.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President*.

THE WORSHR. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.

MESSRS. CHARLES MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

WILLIAM FRANKLAND.

WILLIAM MACKETT.

EDWARD EYRE.

JOHN ZEPH. HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 18th instant being wrote fair, was now read, approved, and signed.

The President acquaints the Board that he was sometime ago encouraged by Coja Wazeed's Gomastah to apply to his master for the provision of saltpetre instead of contracting with Omichund for that article, by which means we should save the 2 annas per maund, acknowledged by Omichund to be allowed him. That he had accordingly applied to Coja Wazeed esteeming it for the Hon'ble Company's interest to procure this article from the original purchaser at Patna. That Coja Wazeed's Gomastah is now on the spot, and might be enquired of by the Board.

Fort William, the 30th April 1753.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*

THE WORSHR. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.

MESSRS. CHARLES MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

WILLIAM FRANKLAND.

WILLIAM MACKETT.

EDWARD EYRE.

JOHN ZEPH. HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 23rd instant being wrote fair, was now read, approved, and signed.

Coja Wazeed's Gomastah being returned to Hughley, one Hurruckchand, a resident of this place, attended the Board in his behalf, and acquainted us that he had received an answer from his master in relation to contracting with us for saltpetre with orders to agree for the delivery of 51,000 maunds at Calcutta between the months of September and January at the rate of Arcot Rs. 5-14 per Factory maund. That Coja Wazeed wanted no money to be advanced before the delivery of the petre, only interest for the amount from the day of making the contract; and that he (Hurruckchand) would sign the Teep for it on the usual terms with the penalty in case of failing in the contract.

Omichund was then sent for and informed of the purport of Coja Wazeed's offers, and asked what he had to say thereto? To which he replied—That when he first made application to Wazeed for this petre, he could not by any means engage him to dispose of it under Arcot Rs. 6-2 per Factory maund, which he acquainted the Board of, and offered to have the contract drawn out in his name for a consideration of 2 annas in the maund. Since that time the President (with great difficulty and some expense) has prevailed on Wazeed to sell his petre at A. Rs. 5-14 per Factory maund, which Wazeed by letter had informed him of. As this transaction has saved the Hon'ble Company a great sum of money, and might have an appearance to his disadvantage, he was willing to forego the consideration of 2 annas per maund, which he had before demanded, and contract for it at A. Rs. 5-14 per Factory maund, or even for less if we thought proper (though he should be a certain sufferer), that he might obviate any suspicion of his collusive dealing.

Hereupon we acquainted him that as the President had gone so far and prevailed with Wazeed to contract at Rs. 5-14 instead of Rs. 6-2, we expected he would still lower the price if he desired the contract to run in his name. He then replied that he would provide the petre at A. Rs. 5-13 per Factory maund, though by that means he should be a sufferer.

Agreed, we consider of his answer next Thursday.

Mr. John Zeph. Holwell desires the consideration of the Board to a letter he lays before them, complaining of the insolent behaviour of Mr. John Wood in taking Mohunpursaud from his custody by a warrant of the Mayor's Court, when he was executing our orders in compelling Mohunpursaud to abide by Mr. Manningham's award or pay the penalty of his arbitration bond.

Ordered the said letter be entered after this Consultation, and directed Mr. Wood to attend us immediately.

Mr. John Wood attending the Board pursuant to our orders, was asked by what authority he took Mohunpursaud from the Zemindar's custody and imprisoned him in his own house as set forth in Mr. Holwell's letter? He replied that Mohunpursaud came to his house without being sent for, and informed him he was taken into custody by the Zemindar, and ordered to pay a sum of Rs. 3,000 on account of a dispute between him and a Pytan Merchant; that the scandal of being sent to the Cutcherry would oblige him to leave the place, as it would be impossible for him to show his face after such an ignominy. Upon which he bid Mohunpursaud go into his compting house, and as he was largely indebted to him, he thought himself obliged to take every legal method in his power to secure his own property, and therefore shut the door of his compting house and took the key in his pocket and went directly to the Mayor's Court, where he affiled a bill of complaint against Mohunpursaud, and obtained from that Court a warrant to arrest his person. That the assertion of his having locked the door of his compting house was false; nor did Mr. Holwell's peons once demand the man of him. That if he had done an illegal action, he was ready to answer it at the Mayor's Court if he was prosecuted. Upon being asked if he did not know that Mohunpursaud was under the arrest and custody of the Zemindar's peons? He denied it at first, but afterwards replied, he was not to know that.

The Zemindar's peons were then called in and interrogated before Mr. Wood about this transaction, who gave the following account: That after Mohunpursaud went into Mr. Wood's house, they two had some private discourse together, and soon after Mr. Wood thrust him into his compting house, locked the door and carried the key with him. That as he was going to the Court House, they ran after him and demanded Mohunpursaud might be delivered them, who replied that whoever pay him thirteen or fourteen thousand rupees, which he owed him, should have him.

Mr. Wood being desired to withdraw, we took into consideration the whole of his behaviour in this transaction, and are of opinion it has been highly insolent and in contempt of the authority of this Board; and as such an unprecedented manner of acting requires the severest example should be made of him (to deter any others in future from doing the like), and having forfeited by this proceeding all indulgences and privileges allowed him by the Hon'ble Company in his Indentures as a free merchant—

Agreed, therefore, that he be directed to prepare to return to Europe by the first shipping of this season, and that in the meantime engages himself in no fresh transactions of trade of any kind whatever; and

Ordered the Secretary to acquaint him of our determination and direct him to pay an obedience thereto.

To the HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

In obedience to your commands on Consultation of the 18th instant touching Mr. Manningham's award of arbitration in the dispute between Abdel Nubby Cawn and Mohunpursaud, I sent for the parties the next day and explained to them the purport of the award and your orders to me to put the same in execution, then gave Mohunpursaud two days to determine whether he would abide by the award or pay the penalty of three thousand Arcot Rupees submitted to by both parties in their bonds of arbitration. At the expiration of the two days he came to me and made (what appeared to me) evasive and trifling objections to his complying with either, however, as I had taken a fresh sufficient security for his appearance, I thought there was no material objection to indulging him with a few days' further consideration, but not hearing more from him, I sent one of my Jemmantdars on Thursday last to signify to him, unless he submitted to the award or penalty (with Your Honour, &c., further orders therein) on Saturday, that I would absolutely imprison him. On Saturday morning about 8, he came to me and told me he would not comply with either, on which I ordered him to be immediately imprisoned in the Cutcherry, and delivered him to the custody of Manoola Jemmantdar, who gave him in charge to two of the Cutcherry peons. As they were carrying him away, he requested I would indulge him in speaking two or three words with Mr. John Wood as he passed to prison, to which I assented, and gave orders accordingly, hoping Mr. Wood might advise him to conciliate the affair. The peons carried him directly to Mr. Wood's house, where after some discourse apart between Mohunpursaud and Mr. Wood, the latter took Mohunpursaud by the hand and thrusting him into a room, locked him in, telling my peons that whoever would pay him Rs. 13 or Rs. 14,000 which Mohunpursaud stood indebted to him should have him. Then taking the key proceeded (as I am informed) to the Town Hall, and filed a complaint against Mohunpursaud in about that sum, and obtained summons and warrants to issue against him before eleven the same day. How far the authority of the Hon'ble the Mayor's Court can be supported in snatching a prisoner from a judicial power delegated by the Emperor of Indostan (over his own subjects) to our Hon'ble Masters, is a matter I shall not now discuss, because touching Mr. Wood it is not in point, as he had no sanction from that Hon'ble Body, when he exerted the insolent stretch of private authority represented above, of taking my prisoner out of the hands of my officers and locking him up, not only in contempt of me and my office but in higher contempt of Your Hon'ble, &c., whose orders he, Mr. Wood, knew I was then putting in execution, a procedure it is my duty to lay before you as meriting in my opinion your highest resentment.

Fort William, the 3rd May 1753.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ.

THE WORSHR. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.

MESSRS. CHARLES MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

WILLIAM FRANKLAND.

WILLIAM MACKETT.

EDWARD EYRE.

JOHN ZEPH. HOLWELL.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 30th ultimo being now wrote fair, was now read, approved, and signed.

Ordered, the Warehouse-Keeper to deliver out goods bought at outcry to the amount of C. Rs. 12,121; Omichund's account being debited that sum.

Upon resuming the consideration of contracting for saltpetre this year on the Hon'ble Company's account—

The President requested to lay before the Board (previous to their final determination on so important a branch of the investment) the reasons which had induced him to engage so far in endeavouring to procure that article from Coja Wazeed himself, whose property it is, and which still incline him to have the contract made in Wazeed's name. He begs leave in the first place to observe to the Board that Omichund demanded in our Consultation of the 2nd

April A. Rs. 6-4 for the Factory maund, which being a very extravagant demand, he resolved to try every means to reduce that price, which he has at last effected with much pains and difficulty, by promising on his part as much as lay in his power that the contract should be made in Coja Wazeed's name or in that of his Gomastah's, who has consented to give it at A. Rs. 5-14 per Factory maund, and who is ready to enter into the same penalty in case of default on his part as is customary; and as no money is required to be advanced before the delivery of the petre or till we are in possession of some part thereof, there can be no greater risque of the contracts not being complied with, than in contracting with Omichund, as it is undoubtedly the owner's interest to forward any articles we purchase of him to Calcutta with the utmost expedition, and not only that, but move in his power, by his influence at the Darbar, to obtain a clearance from any impediment of the Government's than any merchant belonging to this place. The President further premises that Omichund's views in offering it (after its being reduced six annas in the maund from the first offer made this year by himself of that article) one anna per maund cheaper than Wazeed, must be to maintain his great power which has been hitherto, he conceives, too extensive, and therefore making the contract with him will be still adding thereto, as the President cannot but imagine Omichund will make his boast (should he carry his point) that the President was not able to succeed in this affair, by which Coja Wazeed will for ever after be closely linked to Omichund and hearken to no propositions from any one else in the purchase of any articles proper, for the Company's petre being not the only one he is supplied with from Patna, but turmerick, tincall, and cloth likewise, all which articles our Hon'ble Masters stand in need of, and it is but reasonable to imagine the prices will be regulated by Omichund's knowledge of our wants of such articles; for in this of petre it is plain how much he would have deceived us. The President from the foregoing considerations thinks the steps he has taken, if the Board should confirm them by contracting with Wazeed or his Gomastah, will tend greatly more to the emolument of our employers than the difference of one anna per maund, Omichund's present offer; but submits his judgment to the opinion of the Board, and if in their thoughts he has been anyways instrumental to the Hon'ble Company's interest in this transaction he obtaining all promises of friendship from Coja Wazeed, he hopes it will be thought reasonable to be defrayed the expenses he has been put to in presents, &c., amount to about Rs. 2,500, or if the Board should think proper, he is willing to submit it to the Hon'ble Company, whether or not to be reimbursed.

The opinion of the Board was then demanded, in whose name the contract should be made, after having considered on the reasons alleged by the President.

Mr. Holwell thinks the reasons set forth by the President carry great weight with them; the advantages to the Company resulting from the present contracts being negotiated with Wazeed is manifest, and that from thence future contracts may be made with him in the other articles mentioned by the President, which will probably be attended with the same advantages, and those profits saved which appear to him to have been and will be made by Omichund. He is therefore for contracting with Wazeed at A. Rs. 5-14 per maund provided anyone or two responsible Company's merchants will sign the Teep with him, whereby we may be secured in the payment of the penalty in case of failure in the contract, and provided also that no money is advanced him, but as the petre is delivered which he thinks the deposit in the Mayor's Court forbids in this or any other contract, otherwise than on these conditions, he is for contracting with Omichund.

Mr. Eyre thinks we ought to contract with him that will give it on the most reasonable terms.

Mr. Mackett is of opinion that if Coja Wazeed appoints one of our mere chants his Gomastah to enter into the usual bond, as we shall then be secure in obtaining the penalty in case of failure, and no money be advanced till the petre is delivered, that we should contract with him; and as Wazeed is to supply the petre, whether the contract is in Omichund's name or another, he thinks the security of having the petre the same, and thinks likewise one anna maund too trifling to contract with Omichund contrary to Wazeed's inclination.

Mr. Frankland is of opinion that contracting with any of the Government's people is extremely precarious, and that as Omichund has already offered it at one anna cheaper, and may still lower his price, he thinks it will be most for the Company's advantage to contract with him.

Mr. Becher thinks that Coja Wazeed's being a Darbar officer is a very material objection against contracting with him at any rate, and he likewise thinks it is our business to contract where we can get it cheapest. Nevertheless, as he thinks, there is an appearance of reason in what is set forth by the President. If the petre is to be procured on the same terms that Omichund will give it and one or two merchants of substance will be securities to the Company for the Wazeed's performing the contract or paying the penalty in case of failure, he then is of opinion the contract should be made with Wazeed, otherwise with Omichund endeavouring to lower the price if possible.

Mr. Manningham is of opinion the contracting with Coja Wazeed for saltpetre ought rather to be avoided for the following reasons: Coja Wazeed has always been regarded either as an officer of the Government or intimately connected therewith. The contracting therefore with a person in such a station is not agreable to our Hon'ble Master's orders.

It is well known Coja Wazeed has been long attempting to engross the whole Patna trade, wherefore instead of adding, it is the interest of our Hon'ble Employers rather to prevent his gaining the command of that extensive trade as the prejudice will be manifest in our provision of saltpatre, cloth, &c., or in re-settling that Factory whenever the Company approve thereof, for when once the trade is in his hands, we may be well assured of every artifice in his power to interrupt our intercourse with that part of the country. On referring to the Consultations of 1751, March the 7th, it will be found the first offer of saltpetre that season from Omichund was at *Arcot Rupees 6 per* Factory maund reduced to Arcot Rupees 5-14 the 30th May, and the contract concluded with him at that rate, the 24th July, for 86,000 maunds, and notwithstanding the Governor and Council were acquainted by Omichund, the 8th July, that the petre belonged to Coja Wazeed, and if the contract was made in his, Omichund's name, he was to have an allowance (on Wazeed's limited price) of two annas per maund in consideration of the risk and penalty he was liable to on failure of the contract, yet it was esteemed the Company's advantage that the contract should be made with Omichund even at an advance to avoid any transactions with Wazeed. Mr. Manningham being at that time a Member of the Council, assented thereto for the reasons then offered, which being still in force, he thinks the contract should be made with Omichund this season especially as his offers are more favourable than those of Coja Wazeed.

Mr. Cruttenden is of opinion with Mr. Becher.

The President thinks we ought to contract with Coja Wazeed for the reasons already by him set forth. Upon which we sent for Omichund and asked him if he would lower the price of his petre, to which he answered that he was willing to give it us for one anna in the maund less than Coja Wazeed and the same quantity. But he could not reduce it any more as he must be a prodigious sufferer if he did.

Hurruckchund, the constituent of Wazeed's Gomastah, was then called in and asked if Coja Wazeed's Gomastah would agree to sign the Teep jointly with another responsible person. His reply to which was that he could not admit of any person's becoming security for his Master, but if we were dubious of his performing the contract or evading the penalty in case of failure, he was ready to deposit in our hands a Company's interest note to the amount of the penalty as a security for complying with the tenour of his contract.

Agreed, we consider further of this affair and determine it next council day.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior*.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
T. Z. HOLWELL.

Thursday, the 17th May.

Fort William, the 17th May 1753.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President*.
THE WORSHR. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.
MESSRS. CHARLES MANNINGHAM.
RICHARD BECHER.
WILLIAM MACKETT.
EDWARD EYRE.
JOHN ZEPH. HOLWELL.
MR. FRANKLAND being indisposed.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 10th instant being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

Report Survey of the river.

Mr. John Afton, Provincial Deputy Master Attendant, being returned from surveying the river and laying the buoys now delivers in the report of his transactions herein.

Ordered, the said Report to be entered after this Consultation.

Register's Bill of Fees paid.

The Registers of the Mayor's Court sent in his Bill for Fees due to him in the suit of Mr. Jonathan Ranson amounting to C. Rs. 154-6-6.

Agreed, the President do pay the same out of the cash.

Charges general for March brought in.

The Buxey now delivers in the charges general for the month of March with the vouchers for the several disbursements there in.

Ordered it to lay on the Table for examination.

Cash supplied with M. Rs. 15,000.

The President wanting money for the use of the cash ordered the Committee of Treasury to advance him 15 thousand M. Rs. for that purpose.

Musters of Salt-
etre brought in
nd contracted
or.

Omichand now brings in the musters of the Patna Dobarra petre pursuant to our orders of last Council, which being approved of, as well as the terms he offers to contract upon entered upon the face of our Consultation of the 10th instant, we accepted his proposals and ordered the Teep to be drawn out conformably; the interest to commence from this day.

'alcutta List of nvestment to be rought in.

Ordered the Export Warehouse-Keeper to lay before the Board a list of the Calcutta Investment, as we think it full time to begin the contracts for the ensuing season.

lerchants ordered o prepare their roposals for the ivestment.

The merchants were then called in and directed to prepare their proposals for providing the Company's investment for this year.

nterest Notes can- elled and re- ewed.

Cancelled and renewed the following Interest Notes, *viz.*—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.	C. Rs.	a.	p.
To Goorchurn, dated 1st May 1752, for principal	1,09,000	0	0			
Interest, 1 year .	9,800	0	0	1,18,800	0	0
To Ammend Cown, dated 2nd May 1752, for principal . . .	1,635	0	0			
Interest, 1 year .	147	2	3	1,782	2	3
To Gocul Sein, 25th April . .	5,450	0	0			
Interest, 1 year .	490	8	0	5,940	8	0
To Gurrul Dass, 15th April .	3,270	0	0			
Interest, 1 year .	291	1	0	3,561	1	0
To Mrs. Elizabeth Bourcheir, the 30th April	6,000	0	0			
Interest, 1 year .	540	0	0	6,540	0	0
To Mr. John Hipwood, 3rd April	4,165	8	9			
Interest, 1 year .	374	14	3			
	4,540	7	0			
Endorsed off .	572	12	6	3,967	10	6
To William Fythe, Esq., the 1st May 1752	1,058	12	9			
Interest, 1 year .	95	4	6	1,154	1	3
To Messrs. Nap and Joseph Roddenburgh, dated the 1st May 1752	18,563	7	0			
Interest, 1 year .	1,670	11	3	20,234	2	3
To Messrs. Edward Eyles and Robert Orme, the 1st May .	6,700	0	0			
Interest, 1 year .	603	0	0			
	7,303	0	0			
Endorsed off .	464	6	3	6,838	9	9
To Gopee, dated 1st May 1752 .	879	6	0			
Interest, 1 year .	79	2	3	958	8	3
To Collipursaud, 1st May 1752 .	14,680	7	6			
Interest, 1 year .	1,321	4	0	16,001	11	6

Money advanced, account Dadney Contract, 1752.

Ordered the Committee of Treasury to pay out of their office to the under-written persons the sums annexed to their names on account of their Dadney Contract of last year;—

	C. Rs.	a.	p.
To Radha Kishen Mullick	240	0	0
„ Ozoodyaram Bysack	664	4	0
„ Jaggermohan Bysack	2,368	0	0

Interest Note granted by transfer.

Granted an Interest Note to Messrs. Manningham and Frankland, dated the 11th instant, for C. Rs. 454-6-3, that sum being endorsed off; a note to Messrs. Edward Evles and Robert Orme, dated the 30th April 1752, for principal Rs. 6,700.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*

E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

C. MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

W. MACKETT.

T. Z. HOLWELL.

To the Hon'ble Roger Drake, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

Pursuant to your orders of the 23rd ultimo for sounding the river and laying the buoys, I repaired on board the *Mermaid* Sloop, the 27th. The other sloops appointed to assist on the occasion were the *Grampus*, *Hawke*, *Calcutta*, and *Belvideira*, and Pilots, Messrs. Smith, Pinuatz, Viccary and Moor. The same day about 2 in the afternoon weighed with a strong gale of wind southerly, leaving the *Belvideira* behind to bring the buoy down after us; it not being quite ready when we went away at half past 3 in the afternoon at Govennapore; the *Grampus* in working down split her main Dibb and was not able to proceed any further before she had bent another. This evening had a hard squall of wind and rain from the north-west.

Saturday, the 28th. At noon weighed with the first of the ebb; wind southerly; a fresh gale; sounded through Tanner's reach, but the wind blowing so hard could not keep the sloops in their stations to sound, so came to an anchor in the lower part of the reach. This evening had a very hard squall of wind and rain from the westward.

Sunday, the 29th. Early this morning weighed; wind northerly, and sounded with the latter part of the ebb to Budge Budge, where about 9 meeting the flood anchored; about noon weighed with the first of the ebb; wind southerly; sounded all the way down to the lower part of Hogg River sand, where we anchored in the evening.

Monday, the 30th. In the morning weighed; wind northerly, and sounded through Fulta reach with four sloops abreast and down to new town, where meeting the flood we worked up again over Fulta sand and sounded the western channel; and about nine anchored abreast of the Dutch Banksaul. Here we were joined by the *Belvideira* with the buoy. About noon weighed with the first of the ebb; wind southerly; sounded the James and Mary and down to Hughly River point, but finding considerable alterations, stood back and sounded it a second time and found the passage at the lower part of the sand shifted, which I shall take further notice of in the general remarks. At sunset we anchored abreast of Dean's Town.

Tuesday, May 1st. At daylight this morning weighed; wind westerly, and with the latter part of the ebb, sounded round the Diamond sand and down to Culpee, where meeting the flood about 8; anchored at noon; weighed with the first of the ebb and sounded down to Channel creek and over the east and west channel with five sloops abreast and round our buoy that was laid last year on the N. W. point of the Mizen sand, and finding it to lay very well for the old channel, but we have found a new channel broke out through the Mizen sand to the westward of the old one, which I shall take further notice of hereafter.

Wednesday, the 2nd. This morning weighed and sounded over the flat at Kedgeree, and with the first of the flood, up through the aforesaid new channel as high as the buoy of the Mizen, where we anchored. About noon weighed with the first of the ebb, wind southerly, and sounded down crossing the spit that lays between the aforesaid new channel and the old one and through the passage at Cowcolly, where we have a buoy that was laid last year on the north end of the middle ground and lays very well, only wants breeming. This evening worked down to Ingellee sounding all the way as we went, and at night run into the creek in order for the sloops to wood that were ordered for the road.

Thursday, the 3rd. All this day the sloops were employed in wooding and setting up their rigging, and in the evening dropt down to the creek's mouth to be ready to go out in the morning.

Friday, the 4th. At daylight this morning weighed, wind southerly, and about 7 anchored in Ingellee Road. At high water weighed with the first of the ebb and sounded down to the broken ground and round our buoy that was laid last year; found it to lay very well, only wants breeming, after which worked down to the Fairway with the *Mermaid*, *Calcutta* and *Hawke* (the latter having the buoy on board to be laid there), having ordered the *Grampus* over the edge of the Longsand and the *Belvideira* to the lower end of the Barrabulla for marks. About 5 in the evening laid the buoy at the Fairway with the following bearings : the sloop on the edge of the Longsand or Sangrer, N.-E.; the sloop to the westward or the edge of the Barrabulla, N. and E., $\frac{1}{2}$-E. in about 24 feet at low water, after which made the best of our way up to Ingellee with the *Mermaid*, *Grampus* and *Belvideira*, leaving the *Hawke* and *Calcutta* to make the best of their way into Ballasore Road.

Saturday, the 5th. About noon we anchored at Ingellee and were employed all the rest of the day and the two following days in taking up the two buoys, breeming them and laying them again.

Tuesday, 8th. This morning laid a buoy at Ingelee with the following bearings : the large tree at Ingellee N.W.B.N.; the bamboo bushes at Cowcolly N.B.E., $\frac{1}{2}$-E., and the buoy of the broken ground S.B.W., $\frac{1}{2}$-W. After having laid the aforesaid buoy, I made the best of my way up to town, where I arrived the 9th instant in the afternoon with the *Mermaid* sloop, having left the *Grampus*, Mr. John Smith Pilot, and *Belvideira*, Beeman Sculse, Senior Master, at Ingellee, to follow their orders they had received from Edward Holden Cruttenden, Esq.

From the above proceedings I am to remark to Your Honour, &c., that the flat on the eastern shore in the upper part of the James and Mary reach is a good deal washed away and left the channel something wider till you come abreast of new town, where from a creek just below the said town down to the point is bore up a flat or shoal; that in some places hath less than 3 fathoms on it, which to avoid you must steer down the middle of the river minding the edge over to the eastward so as to be about $\frac{3}{4}$ths of the river over, when you come abreast of the Bluff Point, Mingo Bibby's creek, and then borrow on the sand so as to cross over the tale of it before you shut the said creek in, and then steer down along the western shore from the aforesaid creek is filled up, and where there was 6 and 7 fathoms water last year is not now above $2\frac{1}{2}$ and 3. To come up through the said James and Mary reach with a flood tide and a fair wind you must mind to keep over for the point above the Ganges as formerly and not up the middle of the river as you did last year, for the flat that runs from Hughly River point is joined to the spit that runs down the middle of the river. When you are past the foresaid point then you must edge over towards the eastern shore so as to be $\frac{2}{3}$rds of the river over, before you shut in Mingo Bibby's creek and then steer up for Haugnans Point; keeping in this track you will carry from 4 to 6 fathoms water with the first of the flood.

In sounding the E. and W. channel found the following alterations, *viz.*:—

Flat of Mud Point hath 3 feet less water on it than was last year, and there is no anchoring on it with a ship of a large draught of water. From this point down over the channel you come within a mile of the lower buoy of the Mizen, you will carry 3¾ and 4 fathoms water, then you will fall into a hole or swatch with $40\frac{1}{25}$ fathoms water in it, and hath these following bearings: the lower or westernmost point of the Gillingham island for N.N.E., ½E. to N.E.C.N., the old croping trees W.C.S. From this hole there is a channel broke out through the Mizen sand, from 1 to 2 miles broad, and hath from 4 to 5 fathoms water in it, till you come to the lower, where you have a small flat to cross with 18 feet on it at low water and bears from the sandbank at Kedgeree, N.W., ½W. In coming up, if you would go through this channel, you must mind to keep the buoy that layeth on the head of the middle ground S.W. from you when you are entered the channel, but I would advise to follow the old channel till the new one is buoyed, which I presume the Dutch will do when they go down to sound. All the other parts of the river are much the same as they were last time of sounding, so require no more to be said about them.

I am, with due respect,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,

Your most obedient and humble servant,

JOHN AFTON,
Provisional D. Master Attendant.

CALCUTTA,
The 14th May 1753.

Thursday, the 24th May.

Fort William, the 24th May 1753.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., *President.*

THE WORSHR. EDWARD HOLDEN CRUTTENDEN, ESQ.

MESSRS. CHARLES MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

WILLIAM MACKETT.

EDWARD EYRE.

JOHN ZEPH. HOLWELL.

MR. FRANKLAND being indisposed.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 17th instant being wrote fair was now read, approved, and signed.

I, Omichand, merchant of Calcutta, do hereby agree with the President and Council of Fort William on account of the Hon'ble East India Company, to deliver them in Calcutta the full quantity of 51,000 Factory maunds of Patna Dobarra Saltpetre at A. Rs. 5-12 per Factory maund upon the following terms: To have 9 per cent. interest allowed me upon the whole amount, A. Rs. 2,93,250, from the 17th May 1753, and for what sums advanced me from the Company's Treasury, I shall receipts. In the month of September I will deliver into the Company's Godowns maunds 20,000 and the remaining 31,000 by the 1st February 1754, and if the whole quantity be not delivered into the Godowns by that time, I agree to pay the penalty of 10 per cent.

OMICHAND.

onday.

Fort William, the 4th June 1753.

At a Consultation, Present:

The Hon'ble Roger Drake, Esq., *President.*

The Worshr. Edward Holden Cruttenden, Esq.

Messrs. Charles Manningham.

Richard Becher.

William Frankland.

William Mackett.

Edward Eyre.

John Zeph. Holwell.

The Book of Standing Orders laying on the Table.

The Consultation of the 31st ultimo was now read, approved, and signed.

nvestment pro- eedings thereon.

The President, Export Warehouse-Keeper and Sub-Export Warehouse-Keeper, having examined (agreeable to our resolutions of last Council) the Hon'ble Company's General letters for some years past as well as their standing orders, and having from them collected our Hon'ble Master's directions regarding the material branch of their affairs, the investment they now lay before the Board, the result of their enquiries formed into proposals (corresponding with the orders of our employers) for the merchants to contract on for this year's investment, *viz.*—To contract on the old musters as usual to receive no goods inferior to the musters of last year; to sort the goods in the same method as last year; to advance but 30 per cent. Dadney; to have a due proportion of ready money goods; the penalties to be charged on the deficiencies of their whole contracts and on the different species of goods short delivered instead of lumping it as formerly; to have it in our option to refuse or take the goods tendered us after the expiration of the time limited in the Teeps and to reduce the price of goods.

The merchants being called in were made acquainted with the purport of the foregoing proposals, and asked if they would undertake the investment of this year on those terms, to which they answered they could not possibly accept of those terms without being ruined. They were then asked whether they would recede from their proposals of the 31st ultimo and make us any others that were more reasonable, and particularly if they would undertake the investment at a less advance of Dadney than 85 per cent.; they replied that the terms they had mentioned to us on the 31st were what they could not possibly recede from, especially that part respecting the advance of Dadney. As the proposals made us by the merchants for contracting for the investment are in our judgment extremely unreasonable and very inconsistent with our Hon'ble Masters' orders, whose expectations from us would be greatly disappointed should we accept of them, and as the merchants persist in their obstinacy and cannot be prevailed upon to recede from any part of the terms they offered us on Thursday last, we are of opinion it is absolutely necessary for us to provide our investment by some other method, which may better answer the intent and expectations of our Hon'ble Employers, by not requiring too much of their estate at once and have their goods brought earlier into the werehouse, which from last year's experience we are very sensible how little able our merchants are to effect even should we contract with them upon their own terms.

Ordered, therefore, that notice in the several languages be affixed at the Fort gates. That the Company's musters will be exposed to view in the Cottah. That any person will contract with us for any of those sortments, they are to give in their proposals to the Export Warehouse-Keeper to lay before us, and if they are approved of, they will be accepted.

Ordered, likewise, that the Export Warehouse-Keeper and Sub-Export Warehouse-Keeper do examine the General letters and standing orders in relation to the investment, and lay before the Board our Hon'ble Masters' sentiments and directions on that branch of their affairs and form a method to provide the same, corresponding the nearest with their orders.

The merchants were then called in again and told they were no more the Hon'ble Company's Dadney merchants.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*

E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

C. MANNINGHAM.

RICHARD BECHER.

W. FRANKLAND.

W. MACKETT.

EDWARD EYRE.

J. Z. HOLWELL.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 363 F. D.—12-7-92.—500.
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[*Public Sundries Vol. No 9:*
"*French Correspondence,*" 1752.]

Fort St George, 2nd June 1753.

To—The Hon'ble M Dupleix, Govr of Pondicherry.

Hon'ble Sir,—I have the honour to receive your Letters of the 18th Feby 6th, 18th & 31st Ultimo, the unpolite reception you gave those addresses sent you from Fort St David is still fresh in my memory.

That of the 18th Feby is of an extraordinary Length, in my opinion a good cause might have been related in less Compass, in this Sir instead of returning a proper satisfaction for the insults complained of, to indulge your Chagrin you quarrell with Nizam's & Annerverde Cawn's family, but paint Chunda a perfect Hero, represent the cruel treacherous Assassination of a prince (Nazar Jung) as one of the most glorious Victorys that ever grac'd the French Arms, extol the bravery of your Troops, and extreamly free with the Characters of Messrs Floyer, Lawrence and Cope, and endeavour to shake off the odium of the terrible Calamitys you have flung the province into.

Captn Cope is dead, I shall acquaint Messrs Floyer & Lawrence with what relates to them, who I am assured will Answer you; You accuse me of refusing the Visit of the Gentlemen you purposed sending, certainly Sir I may decline with decency what I judg'd unseasonable and be extreamly easy, though Mr Dupleix is not so. As to the Letter I wrote to the Captn of the *Britannia*, I must inform you that the Owners of that Ship had consign'd her to me many months before, agreeable to their desire her Cargoe was sold, and I assure you both Owners & Captn shall suffer severely for their indiscretion, what else may regard myself in a publick Capacity I shall with pleasure submit to the judgement of yours & my Superiours.

The Source from whence these troubles is, in this Country, well known, Children lament their Parents, Parents bemoan the loss of what is most dear to them, all degrees of people oppress'd by every Calamity that War can produce, in their last agonies groan out Dulpleix. I leave it to your serious hours of Reflection to reconcile these truths. This address of yours seems to be wrote with a View to deceive those at a distance who have not an opportunity of being acquainted with the real Facts, I shall reserve to myself at a proper time the pleasure of relating the Course of this unfortunate War in a plain dress, remove those Shades you have artfully introduced, and where mere nothings are set in a glaring light, stript them of their plumes, and leave it to the publick to Judge, whether, you Sir, have not produced these terrible scenes, strange that one subject shall thus sport with the Miserys of the most beautifull of the creation and turn a paradise into a Desert.

'Tis almost needless to repeat to you that I shall always have a particular regard to the Treaties subsisting between the two Crowns, and severely resent an infringment of them in any other under this Government when dearly proved, many have been the Instances represented to you but not redress'd, there still remain many more which to our Superiours you must answer for.

Your three last Letters relate to Facts said to be done at a distance, in the Dominions of a prince, where We have only an opportunity to ask, but not a power to order, I shall by your example reserve to myself the time I judge necessary, and inform myself of the Circumstances before I reply, I have transmitted to Mr Lawrence the several dispositions and shall as far as is come to my knowledge now Answer.

Give me leave Sir to ask you, if a subject of France robbs and deserts his Colours, and is afterwards laid hold of at Arcot, whether according to your Laws Military he is not liable to suffer death.

I have directed Mr Lawrence to enquire into the manner of the Surrender of Chunda's party on the hill and desire the Nabob to observe the terms.

He acquaints me that Mr Zilvaiguer's Treatment was handsome, he was well accommodated and at his desire a passport was procured for him to go to Pondicherry, he further adds that Mr Zilvaiguer declared you was acting a villanous part and he wou'd tell you of it, whether the Nabob thought proper to see him I know not, be persuaded I shall always endeavour to promote a polite treatment of Officers.

Excuse me Sir if I do not admit the case of Kelsey and Mr Demar as pararell, the one a thief and a Deserter, the other a Gentn that has never been in your Service but came out an Officer in ours, the Irish and Scotch Officers you mention were naturalized.

You remark Mr Lawrence is in conversation extreamly free with your name I imagine that Gentlemen thinks he has been ill treated by you.

The prisoners at Arcot were, and those at Trichinopoly are under the Nabob's Guards, I know of none but those of Mahomud Ally's these concern me no further than Compassion would induce me to interest myself in their behalf so far as to procure them humane treatment, you seem Sir to think it hard that Mr Zilvaiguer should remain at Trichinopoly and not have a passport for Pondicherry and afterwards are disgusted when Mr Lawrence interposed and got them for the other three Officers, a manifest Contradiction this, please Sir to let me know whether it is agreeable to that I should intercede with the Nabob in behalf of prisoners or leave them to his disposal.

When I receive an answer from Mr Lawrence in regard to the Officers depositions I shall address you, the Report of sending the prisoners to Europe on our Ships seems to be without grounds, upon very slight reflection you would know it is impossible.

In the Course of Affairs some things often occur that might be reconciled by a private address, this has led me into a Correspondence with you, 'tis grown too general on your part & turns upon points of a very publick nature, I must therefore desire Sr that in future it may be from the Govr & Council of Pondicherry to the Govr & Council of Madrass.

I have the honour to be with most perfect Consideration,

Hon'ble Sir,
Your most Obedient Humble Servant,
(Signed) THOMAS SAUNDERS.

To—Tho Sanders, Esq., Govr of Fort St George.

In the Year one thousand seven hundred and fifty-two, the 18th day of June at eleven oClock in the morning appeared at the Office of the Secretary to the Superiour Council of Pondicherry, before us David Marragon, Secretary, and in the presence of Messrs Bertrand and Flacourt, Company's, Servants Witnesses to this Deposition Mr Louis Hubert de Combault D'Auteuil, Captain of foot, Claud Gallard, Captain of Artillery, and Nicholas Charles Francis D'Estimanville, Second Lieutenant of Artillery, who declare that on the 9th Instant at 8 oClock in the morning being in the Village of Wolconda, they were attack'd by a Troop of Morattas followed by a Body of Seapoys in the pay of the English and Mahomed Ally Cawn and coming to an Engagement, the said Deponents opposed the Enemy's Forces till 4 oClock in ye Afternoon; when they were fallen upon by a Body of about three hundred and fifty English with four pieces of Cannon 6 pounders and two of 2, with forty Gunners to serve the said Canon; that hereupon the said Deponents seeing they were not in a Condition to oppose Forces so much superiour, retired over the first Wall of the Fort of Wolconda, which they were obliged to scale and the Enemy pursuing them to the Fort of the said wall, the said Deponents thought it would be to no purpose to resist seeing the Treachery of the Govr of the Fort who sent us word to retire and that he was going to fire upon us if We did not, Mr D'Auteuil, Commander of the Troops, ask'd to Capitulate & who he must address himself to make this Capitulation; *upon which* Mr Clive Commander of the English Troops appeared and Answered that it was to him he must apply, and immediately proposed to the said Mr D'Auteuil to surrender at Discretion; which he not consenting to, after some Conferences it was agreed between Messrs D'Auteuil & Clive, that Mr D'Auteuil and the above mentioned officers should be prisoners for one Year, unless they should be exchanged before the Expiration of that Term, and that the said Gentlemen should be at liberty on leaving Wolconda to go to Pondicherry; that with regard to the Soldiers they should be received as prisoners, and that pardon should be granted to all Deserters; After this Agreement was made, the said Deponents asked Mr Clive, when they were arrived at his Camp for Liberty to retire to Pondicherry according to the Articles, but the said Mr Clive answered them that they must first go to Major Lawrence's Camp before Trichinopoly to which the said Deponents replied that it was contrary to the Faith of the Treaty and the parole of Honour he Mr Clive had given them which should be sacred among Officers; upon which Mr Clive told them that he was not Master, & that he was obliged to follow the Orders of Major Lawrence to which the said Deponents answered that they were much Surprised that he Commander of the Detachment had not Power to keep the Parole he had given them, since every Officer, even a Serjeant who Commands a Party, whenever he makes a Capitulation is obliged to keep it; Notwithstanding all the Representations of the said Deponents they were obliged to go to the English Camp before Trichinopoly where when Arriv'd they were Immediately sent on to the Town of Trichinopoly whither they were Conducted by Captain Dalton, who got them a Lodging with the Surgeon Major.

The said Deponents having often asked Major Lawrence to get them Leave to speak to Mahomed Ally Cawn, saying it was from him they must receive their Passport and to him give their Parole, Since they were Prisoners to him & not to the English Major Lawrence answered the said Deponents that he wou'd ask Mahomed Ally Cawn whether he wou'd see the said Deponents and that *afterwards Major Lawrence told them that Mahomed Ally Cawn being employed about some Business he could not see the said Gentlemen, but had Commissioned him to deliver them their Passport & receive their Parole.*

Mr Gallard further Declares that upon asking Major Lawrence whether, while he was a Prisoner, he cou'd quit Pondichery & go to France, Major Lawrence answered him that there was not the least Objection, *quite on the Contrary he would only in that follow Mahommed Ally Cawn's Intention who would send all the French Prisoners to Europe upon their Ships.*

The said Messrs D'Auteuil, Gallard & D'Estimanville further Declare that Major Lawrence told them *that if Mahomed Ally Cawn had a mind to attack the French Settlements, he would not hesitate to assist him with all his Forces, & that he would even advise him to do it, & to this end transport Himself, if Necessary to Bengall or the Malabar Coast, but Particularly to Metchlipatam.*

The said Messrs D'Auteuil, Gallard & D'Estimanville further Declare that *Mr Clive told them that he had stop'd a Passport which Mahomed Ally Cawn was sending to Mr D'Auteuil to conduct him to Cheringam, and that the said Mr D'Auteuil said to Mr Clive that he was surpris'd at this Manner of Acting, which was against the Right of Nations, for as he was not at War with the English, He cou'd not stop a Passport which Mahomed Ally Cawn had a Right to give to his Enemies.*

* * * * * * *

(Signed) BOUGTEMY de BEAUPRÉ.
MARRAGON.
BERTRAND.
FLACOURT.

Captn Robert Clive & Mr James Repington.

Declare on oath that they were present during a great part of the Interview which passed between Major Lawrence & Mr Law the day before Syringham was taken, & particularly when the Conversation happen'd about disposing of the Prisoners.

Mr Law begg'd very hard that they might be sent to Pondicherry, as He & all the Officers would give their Parole that they should never serve against the Nabob again but be sent from thence to Europe, The which as they promised in the Name of the Nation, Mr Dupleix cou'd not if he wou'd hinder, Since He (Mr Law) with all the Officers & men wou'd instantly quit Pondicherry

& deliver themselves up to the Nabob. Afterwards Major Lawrence Engag'd, that if it was his particular request He would ask the Nabob to send them Prisoners to Cudalore to Prevent the Insults of the Blacks & from thence to Europe, at the same time intimating to Mons^r^ Law that he imagin'd Mons^r^ Dupleix would make an Handle of it to trouble our Nation even for the good Offices He did, Adding that he did not forget the protests about his keeping the men whose Lives He sav'd from the Troops of Naser Jung. M^r^ Law replied that Mons^r^ Dupleix cou'd do nothing in this, as the Condition of Surrendry was, that the men should be sent to Europe either on English or French Ships, and it was a desire of M^r^ Law and all the Officers that till then they should stay at Cuddalore which would indemnify the English for keeping them, who in this acted the part of Mediators between the French & the Nabob.

In consequence of the above, We Declare that the Conditions of Surrendry on which M^r^ Law gave up Syringham, were as follow:

That He with all the Officers, and about twelve Volunteers should have Liberty to go to Pondicherry under Parole never to serve against the Nabob again, and that the men should be marched Prisoners to Cuddalore there to remain at M^r^ Law's Request, till they could be sent to Europe on English or French Ships; But as for Shaik Hussan he was absolutely refused this Liberty by the Nabob.

The foregoing Cap^t^ Clive & M^r^ Repington jointly attest and the latter further Swears, that Mons^r^ Law said that the Officers should go with them to S^t^ Davids to keep them in the better Order during their March.

And M^r^ Repington further Remembers M^r^ Law's saying He was sure both the French and English Governours must have had Orders from Court, for acting as they did, As likewise several other little Concessions being made Mons^r^ Law, but not till after the Surrendry.

(Signed) ROBERT CLIVE.

JAMES REPINGTON.

FORT S^T^ GEORGE,

7^th^ August 1752.

Sworn Before me,

(Signed) CH^S^ BOURCHIER, *Sec^ry^.*

The Deposition of CAPT^N^ ROBERT CLIVE, *Vizt.*

That as Major Lawrence and he were discoursing apart from M^r^ Law, it was impossible M^r^ Law should be acquainted with the meaning of it, their said discourse, this could only be a Supposition, and he declares they were talking upon a Different Subject to what M^r^ Law intimates.

That upon the Approach of the Nabob's Forces to Volcondah Fort, Captains Gallard and D'Estimanville came out and inform'd him (Captain Clive) of their readiness to surrender the Fort, and that M^r^ D'Auteuil would come out himself and treat upon that Subject. That upon M^r^ D'Auteuil's Arrival, he (Capt^n^ Clive) engag'd his Word to obtain the Nabob's Consent for M^r^ D'Auteuil and his Officers to be Prisoners for one year only, and that they should have leave to go to Pondichery upon their Parole, but not directly from that place, Which he told M^r^ D'Auteuil afterwards was out of his Power, and that as We did not act as Principals and only as Allies to Nabob Annaverdee Cawn, He alone could ratifie what before had been Agreed to in his Name, and of Conse quence that it was absolutely necessary, M^r^ D'Auteuil and his Officers should go to Trichinopoly for that purpose, as they treated with them by Word of Mouth only. That in regard to what M^r^ D'Auteuil Affirms about the Nabobs Passport Cap^tn^ Clive says, that he ask'd him whether He had not received a Passport from the Nabob Annaverdee Cawn for his safe Conduct to Syringham and that upon his Answering in the Negative, He replied it must have been stopp'd, but absolutely declares He never said that he had stopp'd it.

That with respect to the Declaration upon Oath of Messrs DeSelve, D'Sturville and Moureau, He is much surprised, as in many particulars He avers it is absolutely False, that he acknowledges about 4 oClock in the Afternoon He was in the Rear of a Village drinking Tea in Company with Mr Vareille, and upon hearing a great Noise ran out to see what was the matter when he discovered the Seapoys in General running up the Breach, Upon which only Mr Vareille and himself went forwards and were met about fifty yards from the Pagoda by Mr DeSelve, Who begg'd of him (Captn Clive) to protect him and his People from being plundered by the Seapoys, and accordingly both Mr Vareille and himself were very Assistant to the Officers Who would certainly have been stripped to their skins. That as to his heading the Seapoys it cannot be true, for many of them were within the Pagoda before his Arrival, Neither is it likely the Commanding Officer would have come himself without being follow'd by Europeans and after the Seapoys were in possession of the Pagoda it was at least ten Minutes that any of the English Detatchment Enter'd, that upon the whole He cannot help being of Opinion it was want of conduct in the Officers to suffer the Seapoys to advance, when they saw they paid no regard to the Flag of Truce hoisted upon the Breach, and would have been acting more like Soldiers to have fir'd upon them. That concerning any Conditions being granted, The said Gentlemen put it out of the Nabob's Power by letting the Seapoys Master the place before any Terms could be thought on, and He thinks it does not look well in Officers to mention the Risking their Lives in Swimming the Calderoon River when so many hundreds accompanied them and himself with several other English Officers which he does not remember was so deep as to occasion any Swimming, nor his telling those Gentlemen that the French Prisoners would be sent to Europe, Though he recollects the sum of money promised by the King of Mysore on the Surrendry of Syringham Pagoda, and Wishes He had perform'd that Promise.

That as to Mr Zilvaiguer's Declaration of being attack'd by the English He Cannot but look upon it as the most extraordinary one now extant for about 4 o'Clock one Morning He (Mr Zilvaiguer) with a party of Europeans and French Seapoys attack'd Captn Clive and his Detatchment and put to death between twenty and thirty Seapoys with two or three English men whom they found asleep in the Pagoda, and as the said Gentleman and his People were made Prisoners at Summiaveram where a part of the English Army had been encamp'd for some time.

It only remains to declare it was high time for the English to think of defending themselves against their Enemies in such Circumstances as above related.

Fort St George,
21st August 1752.

(Signed) ROBERT CLIVE.

Sworn to before me,
(Signed) Chs BOURCHIER, *Secry*.

Messrs. Clive & Repington.

Gentlemen,—Your Protest of the 7th August has been delivered me to which I am to answer. You will agree with me that your memory fails you, for I cannot that Men of Honour are forgetful Enough of the Care of their Reputation to advance Facts notoriously false, whatever Advantage they may promise themselves.

I enter on my subject, the 13th of June, the day of the Interview. Mr Dalton Conducted me to Mr Lawrence's Tent, Mr Repington was there and you, Mr Clive, arriv'd a few Minutes after me; You therefore were Witnesses of all that was Said on one side & the other; Why do not you think proper to give an Account of the whole Conference, at least to put the Facts, you do think proper to mention in their proper Light. It is so difficult for you to recollect that your Chief (Mr Lawrence) refus'd to quit the Alliance of the Blacks though I told him we were then nothing but French Troops who wanted to retire to our

Factories and that the good Intelligence between our Sovereigns made me hope that he would not oppose us ; His Answer is of a Nature not to be easily forgot; that being Ally to Mahomed Ally Cawn, his Troops & his Cannon should be employed even at the attack of Pondicherry if the Nabob had a mind to March there; that therefore he should be sorry to see me persist in my Resolution for I might depend on it he would do his utmost to Assist his Allies, and that, as soon as that Day was elaps'd, the Nabob had promis'd the Morattas & Mysoreans to leave it to them to revenge their Gods whose Temples according to them had been profan'd. Such a Consideration on the part of a Christian is worthy of Admiration.

Does your memory want another Rubbing to put you in mind of my proposal to your Chief to be Mediator, as I had powers to make a peace? Can you have any reason to be Silent on his Refusal? You remember no doubt that M^r^ Lawrence wanted to colour or Support it on certain cruel Actions committed by our People such as the pretended Murder of a Drummer taken with M^r^ Demare, a Fact of which I shewed him the Falsity in your Presence by the Confession of the Serjeant that was taken in the same Affair & who has since been sent back to you; But finding myself unable to Work any Effect on his mind, did not I address my Discourse to you telling you that Military men should have some regard themselves and that there was a Certain Glory in making honourable Conditions?

M^r^ Lawrence cloak'd his Refusal with a pretence that he must make use of his advantages, and upon my telling him that we should never consent to surrender on such Terms, he answered that it was Common in Europe to surrender at Discretion: I reply'd that his Conduct appear'd to me very extraordinary when I Compar'd it with my orders, since it was enjoined me to let the English retire into their Factorys whenever they should ask it, and that I had Room to expect this should be reciprocal.

Let us come to what regards the Depositions. All my demands being refus'd I receded to that of Conducting the Troops to Pondicherry with their Arms uncock'd; M^r^ Lawrence Answer'd that he might have obtained this from the Nabob, but when once at Pondicherry M^r^ Dupleix would make them take up arms again, I told him that M^r^ Dupleix & every Military Man, had too noble sentiments to make us serve against our Parole, and that I offer'd to engage M^r^ Dupleix to ratify what I had done. M^r^ Saunders is not Ignorant that the Commander General has put in this Condition in the Demand he made of these Prisoners.

I dont accuse your Memory in this, there is something more than forgetfulness And I protest with all the Stedfastness due to truth that I never promis'd that the Soldiers should be sent to Europe from Pondicherry, and if I attack you with your own Arms, would it not be absurd that M^r^ Lawrence should have Consented to send them by the French Ships (as you grant lower down) at the same time that he refus'd to let me Conduct them to Pondicherry, since According to you they were to be embark'd on the French Ships. Add to this the Letter I gave to M^r^ Lawrence of the 14^th^ to take our Soldiers out of the hands of the Blacks and Conduct them to Cuddalore, and you will agree (or others for you) that you advance Facts which Cannot bear the least Examination; For M^r^ Lawrence so exact in demanding Notes, and so Scrupulous about giving them, would not have fail'd to insert this Claim either in my Letter or my note, but let us return to the Charge.

This Demand that I made M^r^ Lawrence to carry the Prisoners to Pondicherry did not take place because you call'd him into a Closet contriv'd in his Tent, and as you was the Oracle he Consulted for the pretended Intentions of the Nabob, He answered me that the Nabob did not consent that the Prisoners should be sent to Pondicherry. Upon this Refusal I told him that our Prisoners at Trichinopoly complained of being Ill treated by the Blacks & Demanded the Prisoners should be sent to Cuddalore; He undertook to obtain this from the Nabob, but that it should only regard those that Surrender'd with me; I told him the others were French equally with them & that I was oblig'd to interest myself in every thing that concern'd them; He reply'd *very well they shall be sent to Madrass upon your Demand.* I then offer'd my service to M^r^ Lawrence to Conduct our Soldiers to Cuddalore with their Arms, if he would entrust them to us; as he made some Difficulty I told him it was the Custom in Europe; His answer was that they should be disarm'd and should have an Escort of a hundred Europeans; *Well then says I our Presence will not be* necessary, speaking of the Officers; upon that Mr Lawrence imparted to me, that he could not grant an Escort to the Officers because Mr de Selve had made a bad use of his; But Mr de Selve has since prov'd to me either that the Fact is not true or the English give more Credit to Blacks than is Reasonable: In short whatever might be Mr Lawrence's Reason he told me the Officers had only to determine whether they would make use of this Escort for the Prisoners for he would give no other, this happen'd the 14th Mr Dumesnil & I confer'd together, and We told Mr Lawrence that the Officers would make use of it; It is very possible I might say, *The Soldiers shall march in the best order*, but neither I nor Mr Dumesnil recollect it, and it must be allow'd that neither the Officers nor I for them, could engage for this as they had an Escort, and it will be always apparent that the Officers could not be oblig'd to go into Fort St David, because there is not the least mention made of it in their Note.

As I am delighted to have my Reputation as well established in the Opinion of Men of Honour as of others, let us once more run over the Fact you have been pleased to advance gratis, and of which I have said that if it had been design'd to send our Prisoners to Europe, they would have made me put it in my Letter or Note of Parole. Do you mean that on the 14th after Dinner Mr Lawrence communicated to me that he proposed sending the Prisoners taken at Wolconda & that he fancied the Nabob would do the same by the last Mr Dumesnil came in to my Assistance and will assure you, that after having told you my astonishment at what I look'd on as an act of Hostility on your part to embark our Prisoners on your Ships I reply'd to Mr Lawrence that I demanded his Parole that they should be sent on ours if Mr Dupleix consented.

I agree that the Nabob refused me Shaik Hussan or rather you for him, It is also allowed that Mr Lawrence gave me his Parole before you, that he would let him escape in the Night, and if he refus'd to keep his Parole an Hour afterwards it was owing to you, Mr Clive, who took Mr Lawrence aside, did not he promise me afterwards as a kind of Reparation to suffer him to come and see his Family at Pondichery? and then to let him escape from Cuddalore. Again the 16th he promis'd Mr Dumesnil & me not to prevent the Nabob from giving up Shaik Hussan & that Mr Dumesnil should be at Liberty to ask for him.

In the conversation of the 13th Mr Lawrence talking to me of the state of Affairs told me that Mr Dupleix had orders from Europe to drop this War & quoted My Lord Albermarle's Authority for what he advanc'd, my Answer was what Mr Repington says; *The two Governours no doubt have their Orders.*

You have reserv'd Gentlemen, for a nice Bit, a stroke which characterizes you, you thought no doubt that you might boldly under the Cover of a rude Phrase which proves nothing raise injurious suspicions. What can you mean by these words *as well as several other little concessions made Mr Law but after the surrendry.* You cannot have my Effects in View since I refus'd Mr Lawrence to take them and had my scrutore opened in his Tent before you. You would no doubt have explained yourselves if you had meant the Sick or the 12 Married Men Mahomed Ally Cawn granted me, but tell me if you please who oppos'd what Mahomed Ally Cawn granted of the sending back the Sick to Pondicherry; Was it he or you who prevented this being done, It is easy to guess almost to a Certainty.

Your Oath too falls quite to the Ground about the number of twelve Volunteers, for my Note which is in Mr Lawrence's hand makes mention of 30, and he told me this Number far exceeded what he Expected.

I must add to all that I have said about that I never presum'd to Diminish Mr Dupleix's Powers, of which I know all the Extent.

I conclude by protesting afresh that there was never any mention before the Surrendry of the Pagodas that the French Officers & Soldiers should be sent to Europe, and that it was only in Conversation after the Surrendry of the Pagodas that Mr Lawrence thought proper to renew the Argument, which he had before spoke of to all the French Officers in whom he was pleased to put so unguarded a Confidence.

You take, Mr Clive, so deep an Interest in this sending away the Prisoners that you go beyond all Bounds to assert that it was my Demand and all the Officers; but which is a Trifle with you, you have not been able to guard yourself against a Reflection which betrays you. You say that the keeping the Prisoners at Cuddalore would have indemnified the English, Surely you dont take this from me, for I never doubted but that a Serious Reflection upon your Conduct must oblige you to Release Prisoners that you cannot keep without hurting the Faith of Treaties, and I did not at the time expect to find you so ready to receive them, and I only propos'd it to you in despair of being able to do better.

How great was my surprise to hear from our Gentlemen the ill Treatment they underwent on the road, even to the wanting to disarm them.

I am very perfectly,

Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient Humble Servant,

(Signed) LAW.

Pondicherry,
30th August 1752.

Sign for what regards me,

(Signed) DUMESNIL.

The Declaration of Captn Robert Clive, *viz.*,

That last August being ordered with a party of English Troops only, to take the Route of Arcot, on his Arrival at Conjeveram, He received Intelligence that a party of Chunda's Horse and Sepoys were assembled together to oppose him. But upon his nearer approach they abandoned the Place, and on the first of September He took Possession of Arcot Fort without the least opposition. That on the 23d of the same month a Strong Detachment from Chunda's Army before Trichinopoly took possession of the Town and the Nabob's Palace in the night time, and on the 24th a Sally was made to dislodge them, when to his great Surprise he found himself and Party oppos'd not only by Moors but the French which they continued to do the whole time the Place was beseiged, and they only (the French) made Batteries against, Cannonaded and bombarded it, and at last made two very Considerable Breaches in the Walls. That a large White Flag was hoisted upon one of their Batteries and it was a constant Custom with them (the French) in the Night time to insult his People, upbraid them with their want of Provisions, and threaten them at the same time to give them no Quarter if they did not Surrender the Place. That for some Days before an attack was made upon the Breaches, although the English Colours were hoisted upon the Fort, not the least regard was paid to them but on the Contrary several Cannon Shot fired thrô them from one of French Batteries. To the truth of which Captn Clive has made Oath in Fort St. George this 1st day of September 1752. And likewise sign'd his Name in the presence of Charles Bourchier Secretary whose Name is also subscrib'd as a Witness thereof.

(Signed) ROBERT CLIVE.

CHS BOURCHIER, *Secry.*

To—Mr Bussy in France.

No. 7.

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To return to the War we have in India, we were successful enough in the beginning, but whether thro' the Fault of our Commanders, Want of Force, or perhaps Misfortune, We have fallen even to a Degree of not having the least resource left. Our first Shock was the Defeat of the Arcot Army Commanded at that time by M^r^ Very in the absence of M^r^ Brenier who was come in sick from Pondichery; It was a compleat one for M^r^ Very was the first to run, and cry out, Every man for himself: All our Arms and Baggage was taken. The Artillery consisted of 8 pieces of cannon. In short every one sav'd himself with what he could pick up there was no time for Reflection. All Night every man run his own Way hardly knowing where they went, and at last the end of fifteen Days got to Pondicherry. This was the first Check we received but nothing in Comparison with those I am going to entertain you with. The Army at Trichinopoly was Commanded by M^r^ Law Lasse, whose little Experience in Military Affairs, thô' a Brave & worthy Man as they say, was the whole cause of our Ruin. He Surrender'd having seven hundred fighting Men & being in a Place where he could not have been taken but by Famine, to this it is he attributes his Reduction; Others say not; he surrender'd I say on the most base terms; The Arms were delivered up, he even consented that all our Troops should be sent to Europe, I mean to England; Part of our Troops was carried to Trichinopoly, part to Cuddalore, and part escaped, nay even to this Day you see them drop in one after another, sometimes at Pondicherry, sometimes here; Tis a miserable thing to see these Wretches expose themselves to a thousand Dangers, and come into the French Settlements quite naked. M^r^ Boilleau, the French Surgeon Major of the above army was oblig'd to take Service with the King of Tanjour who is a neutral Party, but never fails to do us Mischief, for if any of our Prisoners escape they are forced to pass through his Country, and if they are seen he stops them & obliges them to enter into his Service or else sends them back to Trichinopoly; This is what oblig'd M^r^ Boilleau to take service there, as the surest Method of being soon free, and indeed all those that have followed this Method have found an Opportunity to escape.

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Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta—No. 131 F. D.—1-3-93—500.

Extracts from the Court Minutes relative to the presentation to Lord Clive of a Sword, as a mark of the Court's appreciation of his services.

31st Oct. 1753.—Robert Clive, Esq., late a Commander of the Company's Forces under the Presidency of Fort St. George, being returned from thence on the *Bombay Castle*, and paying his respects to the Court.

The Chairman in the name of the Court congratulated him on his arrival, and returned him thanks for the Signal services he had done the Company, hoping he would afford such further attendance and Assistance with his opinion on affairs in those parts, as the Court or any Committee thereof, may advise with him upon.

Captain Clive then made his acknowledgments for the Court's favors and desired leave to assure them, he should with the greatest readiness offer any experience he may have gained and embrace every opportunity for furthering their service.

Whereupon a motion being made Order'd That it be referr'd to the Committee of Correspondence to consider of a proper present to be made to Captain Clive, as a Token of the Court's sense of his singular services in the East Indies, and to report.

6th Feb. 1754.—Minutes of the Committee of Correspondence, dated the 5th Instant, being read, it was unanimously—

Resolv'd That a sword sett with Diamonds to the value of £500 be presented by the Court to Capt Robert Clive as a Token of their esteem for him and sense of his singular services to the Company upon the Coast of Coromandel.

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Order'd That it be referr'd to the Committee of Correspondence to provide those presents and give such further directions thereupon as they shall see fit.

29th May 1754.—A Gold Hilted Sword enrich'd with Diamonds being provided agreeable to the Resolution of the 6th February last, and Robert Clive Esq waiting upon the Court, was called in, when the Chairman in their name presented him therewith, as an acknowledgment for the eminent services he had done the Company in the East Indies and a further mark of the Court's esteem for him.

Whereupon Capt Clive express'd his grateful sense of this Instance of the Court's favor as well as for the obligations he was under to them while in the East Indies, adding his assurances of the readiness with which he shall embrace every occasion of shewing how sincerely he has the promotion of the Company's Interest at heart.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 134 F. D.—11-11-92.—500.

Our President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

We sent in triplicates by the ships *Bombay Castle*, *Hardwicke* and *Rhoda* a general letter under date of the 29th of November last, one or all of which we hope will have come to your hands long before this, as we gave particular directions to our President and Council of Fort St. George to forward those by the *Bombay Castle* and *Rhoda* by the first safe conveyances that offered.

2. Those letters contained some general informations and directions and were accompanied by lists of investments to be made at your Presidency, packets from the Secret Committee to the President, and from us, the Court of Directors, to the President, Chief of Cossimbazar, Colonel Scott and Mr. Manningham of the same date with our general Directions other particulars mentioned in the lists of the respective packets, to which you are referred.

3. We shall now, in the usual method, send you some further information as are necessary, together with our sentiments and directions upon the affairs of your Presidency in general, and—

FIRST, OF SHIPPING.

4. The *Bombay Castle* sailed out of the Downes with a fair wind on the 16th of December as did the ships *Hardwicke*, *Rhoda*, *Prince of Wales*, *Drake*, and *Earl of Holderness* on the 19th of the same month.

5. The ships *Prince George* and *Exeter*, although dispatched at the same time, were prevented by some unlucky incidents from getting to the Downes time enough to have the advantage of the favourable wind which carried others away, and did not therefore sail from thence until the 2nd of January.

6. Besides the ships mentioned in our last letter we have been under the necessity of taking up another, *vizt.*, *Dodington*, James Samson, Commander, to accommodate Government with a conveyance for stores and provisions for the use of His Majesty's Squadron and Land Forces now in India. She is lett for four hundred and ninety-nine tons, mounts twenty-six guns, and is to be navigated by seventy Europeans. We have hired her for the run from England to the East Indies and not to return again to Europe, which we have done purposely to avoid adding to burthen of shipping already on our hands in India. After the said ship's arrival in the East Indies and have delivered the Governments stores and the Company's effects and passengers, she is to be at the entire disposal of the owners upon condition that she shall not be sold to the French or any other European nation, and that at whatever settlement she shall happen to be disposed of the Governor and Council are to take security of the person or persons who purchase her, that they will agree to said conditions. We are to pay the owners for the hire the sum of three thousand five hundred pounds, *viz.*, one moiety in England, one-fourth part on her departure from Fort St. George and the remaining fourth part on the final delivery of consignments in Bengal. We are likewise to pay her eight pounds a head for every soldier and passenger. If she be detained at her consigned ports for the delivery of her cargo, more than thirty days in the whole, we are to pay after the rate of eight pounds, seven shillings and eight pence a day for the time of such detention. This is a summary account of our agreement with the owners which is intended for your immediate information; what further shall be necessary together with the Charter party and other useful papers will be sent you on the ship itself.

7. It was our first intentions that the said ship should carry all the stores and necessaries for His Majesty's service, but the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty having intimated that there will be a want of beef and pork in the squadron before she will probably arrive in India, we have permitted the shipping a quantity on the *Eastcourt* and *Duke of Dorset* amounting to about sixty tons on each ship; this has in some measure prevented our sending all the consignments for the Company intended for your Presidency, which will therefore be conveyed to you in the *Dodington*.

8. We have reminded our President and Council at Fort St. George of the advantage the early arrival of the ships *Eastcourt* and *Duke of Dorset* in Bengal must be to us, we expect therefore that they will be detained no longer than is absolutely necessary.

9. We have carefully perused your answer to the complaints made in our letter of the 24th January 1753, with respect to the employment, dispatch and other matters relative to our shipping, and we cannot help saying that they do not give us a reasonable satisfaction ; but not to enter upon further altereations, we must acquaint you, that as diligent, faithful and unbiassed conduct in this branch our affairs is at all times of great importance to our affairs but now more particularly so under the present load of shipping we shall expect you will make it the object of your most serious attention and save us as much as possible from the expenses of demorage which a contrary behaviour will certainly bring upon us.

10. It is inconceiveable to us how you could make such an inadvertent remark as that in the fifth paragraph of your letter of the 3rd of September 1753, *viz* :—" That though we had destined six ships for coast and bay, yet our orders for the investments, could it be fully and in every particular complied with, would only be sufficient to load home three as by the calculate enclosures in the packet will evidently appear." Now by the very calculate you sent us it appears that the total of the investments to be made at your Presidency amounted to twelve hundred ninety-one tons exclusive of any saltpetre and redwood, which with the usual proportions of the two last articles is more than sufficient for three ships ; and we must further observe to you that the amount of the investment to be made on the coast amount eleven hundred and twenty-four tons likewise exclusive of saltpetre and redwood, so that you see the six ships destined for the coast and bay that season might according to our orders have been fully provided for. We call this inadvertence rather than suppose it done with a view to mislead us, and hope you will take more care for the future.

11. We are sensible of the necessity you were under of detaining the ships *Winchelsea*, *Montfort* and *Elizabeth*, and we observe the efforts you made to employ them to the best advantage ; what the two former will produce by their freight to and from Surat cannot yet appear, but we are apprehensive it will not be adequate to their demorage ; and what you lett the *Elizabeth* for to Captain Rannie, *viz.*, twenty-three thousand rupees, is very far short of what we must pay for her detention ; however, as you appear to have done as much as you could to procure better terms we must rest satisfied ; and in general whenever you are so burthened with tonnage we shall depend upon your faithful and diligent endeavours for employing our shipping to the best advantage, always remembering our former orders that when circumstances are more favourable you will let or employ them so as to earn their demorage at least ; and here we must add that we still observe a great backwardness in you to concert with our Presidency of Fort St. George proper and timely measures for employing our ships notwithstanding our frequent orders and recommendations for that purpose. If we do not find a greater readiness in future we shall highly resent it.

12. You must always be mindful that such ships are intended to fill up at Fort St. George be dispatched there as early as possible ; that we may not lay under the difficulties which their late arrival here necessarily occasion, instances of which have of late been too frequent.

13. As our *settlement of the Negrais* is *under the management of Fort St. George* Presidency, you must punctually observe and comply with what our President and Council there shall desire you with regard to sending shipping, artificers, stores, materials, or whatever else may be necessary ; and in particular that any ship which shall be stationed there is relieved in time to be dispatched home the same season, to prevent such another instance of extraordinary detention as the *Colchester's*, and we think if you had exerted yourselves the *Egmont* might have been sent sooner to her relief.

14. You must attend to what advices you receive, likewise from our said Presidency, with respect to sending a ship for *taking in surplus pepper on the West Coast ;* and in all voyages whatsoever you must be extremely diligent to get our shipping away in time to answer the intended purposes.

15. The President and Council of Fort St. George have given it as their opinion that cargos of rice for Fort St. George may turn to account provided it be good, purchased at reasonable prices, that there is no embezzlement and the full tonnage is laden, and that it is possible for a ship which is detained a season in India to make three trips between Bengal and Fort St. George the time of loading her for Europe. We have recommended it to our said President and Council carefully to agree to this scheme, and strenuously urge you to use your best endeavours to carry it effectually into execution, which we shall expect you would co-operate with them accordingly. If the ships on hand cannot be better employed, they have likewise intimated under the like circumstances that a ship or two may be employed in bringing timber from Pegu for the use of the fortifications at both Presidencies, which being bought at the best hand may be advantageous to the Company, but this likewise must be digested between you and carried into execution if the ships cannot be more profitably employed.

16. As you were doubtful whether the crime charged on the fourth mate of the *Flamouth* by the crew of that ship was for the reasons you give cognizable by you as a Court of Admiralty, we approve of your proceeding no further in it than in binding him over by recognizance to deliver himself up to the Court of Admiralty in England to be tried if any prosecutors shall appear.

17. We have permitted Mr. William Inglis, one of your Assistant Surgeons, who by your leave came to England as Surgeon of the *Flamouth*, to return again without prejudice to his standing.

18. When you were by former orders limited to the value of the cargo to be laden on any ship it was discretional, and on a supposition that you had more than one ship on hand and was intended to divide the risque; this was not the case with regard to the *Flamouth*: she was the only ship you had remaining; all the goods by the *Durrington*, *Portfield* as well as that ship were insufficient returns for the great remittances you had received, and our difficulties must be consequently obvious. In such an extraordinary case therefore you might have laden a further quantity of goods on the *Flamouth*, but the more eligible method would have been to have reserved another ship to have been despatched home, which we are satisfied might have been effected by the goods you had remaining, the assistance of a good quantity of saltpetre, and by looking more strictly after our servants at Cossimbazar to get in their investment in a reasonable time.

19. It is very observable that although you gave public notice for contracting for stores and materials for the service of our Marine, no proposal was given in by any person but *Mr. Cruttenden*, and he was accordingly *contracted with for all the coir, cables and cordage.* The reason why other persons did not offer is evident upon the face of his proposal by which it appears he had *monopolized those articles* under the specious pretence of fulfilling his contract during the time he had with your connivance forced himself into the post of Superintendent of the Marine. If such methods are pursued we can expect nothing but gross impositions, and if we find any future instances of the like kind, we shall highly resent them.

SECONDLY, OF GOODS FROM EUROPE, OR FROM ONE PART OF INDIA TO ANOTHER.

20. We have consigned to you on these ships, the *Eastcourt* and *Duke of Dorset*, one hundred and sixty chests of treasure, *viz.*, eighty on each ship, as also to a large amount in woollen goods, copper, lead, iron and other goods and stores for sale and use, for the particulars of which we refer you to the respective invoices.

21. The President and Council of Fort St. George have directions as usual to take out and coin as much of the bullion above mentioned as you shall have advised them may be necessary for you, and they are forbid detaining any part thereof unless obliged to do so by absolute necessity, and we hope you will not only receive the whole amount of the treasure by these ships, but likewise a considerable proportion of that consigned to our said President and Council by the ships *Hardwicke* and *Bombay Castle*, *Rhoda*, and *Prince of Wales*.

22. In our last letter you were acquainted that the broadcloth intended for you this season would be about three hundred and thirty-three bales; we

are now to acquaint you that we have sent you but about two hundred and six bales. The report to our other Presidencies are the same as mentioned in that letter.

23. We have in general conformed to your indents as near as possible, which you will observe upon examining the invoices; the only material deviation is in the broadcloth; we send you the quantity above-mentioned for the reasons given in our last letter, although you did not indent for any.

24. You must strictly observe what we directed in our last letter, with regard to putting up and selling out woollen goods, the liberty there given being to subsist no longer than until you have got off the heavy stock on hand, or the first favourable opportunity that offers for returning, the method of putting them up at an advance of fifteen per cent. upon the invoice agreeable to our former orders.

25. Your sending such a large parcel of your woollen goods to Bombay on the *Winchelsea* and the *Montfort* without first having the opinion of the President and Council of that place upon such a measure, was not right, as we are apprehensive they have been under the necessity of returning them by the said ship.

26. We shall continue our orders to Bombay Presidency to remind them of making you as large remittances as they can spare. We have the satisfaction of observing their punctuality hitherto, and the great service it has been to our affairs.

27. As it will not answer to send more than one ship to Madeira, we cannot at any time order more than one hundred and fifty pipes of wine, to be consigned to you, and for the reasons given in our last letter you may fall fifty pipes short of that quantity if the President and Council of Fort St. George shall think it necessary to detain so much.

28. The sample of gunpowder made by Captain Witherington which was sent to us by the *Oxford* having been proved by His Majesty's officer in the tower appears to be of so weak a quality as to be not fit for service, and we observe the same complaint has been made of the powder sent to Fort St. George. We therefore approve of Colonel Scott's undertaking the making of gunpowder as we have reason to hope this manufacture will succeed to our satisfaction under his management.

29. We now transmit for your information instructions for making gunpowder agreeable to the method practised by the persons who make it for the use of the Government, which will be of great service to the persons who manufacture it at your Presidency and must therefore be carefully attended.

30. Your accounts of remains of stores and indents received this season are faulty and defective in many articles, particularly in describing properly the sorts and sizes of cordage, anchors, canvas and many other sorts of stores which has occasioned us a great deal of trouble, and will prove sore disappointment to you, which must be avoided in future by more careful attention to the drawing up those accounts corrected.

31. Observing you have a large number of anchors remaining and the different sizes of those indented for not being particularized, we are determined to send none.

32. And here we think it necessary to order that Colonel Scott and the artillery officers be always consulted when you are forming indents for cannon and all kinds of military stores. You are to have a due regard to the hints and informations they shall give relative thereto, and they are to sign such indents as shall be so agreed on.

THIRDLY, OF INVESTMENTS.

33. In our letter of the 29th of November last you were directed to make an early and sufficient provision of saltpetre upon the best terms you can. You were likewise acquainted in what manner and proportions it was to be laden, as well on the ships to be dispatched directly from Bengal as our other Presidency. You must therefore attend to and comply with those directions. And as in the present situation of our being unavoidably burthened with shipping saltpetre will greatly facilitate the dispatch of more than could without

a considerable proportion thereof to be returned home, you must lose no opportunity of laying in a large stock agreeable to our former orders whenever you can procure it at reasonable prices.

34. We are satisfied with the pains you took in making the saltpetre contracted for the year 1753, and the success in consequence thereof in reducing the price from Arcot rupees six and four annas demanded by Omichund to five Arcot rupees and 12 annas; but we should have been better pleased had you made the contract with Coja Wazeed whose property it was, rather than Omichund, as it plainly appears to be the intentions of the latter to confine, as much as lays in his power, all your dealings in this article in particular to himself alone, for we can never suppose his alleged loss by this contract to be fact without concluding at the same time that he will in some shape or other make himself amends for it, and his excuses for asking such an extravagant price at first are no ways satisfactory. In short, it is for the interest of the Company to encourage as many persons as possible to make proposals not only for this article of saltpetre but all others whatsoever, and you must always endeavour to stir up and promote a useful competition for contracts.

35. We observe and approve of the President's conduct in the share he had in beating down the price of the said saltpetre; and as it is reasonable he should be paid expenses he has been put to on the occasion. You are therefore immediately to discharge the same, whatever it is; by your advices it appears to be about three thousand five hundred rupees.

36. As the sale of our Bengal goods is now ended, we find it necessary to confirm to you the several remarks made in the course of our list of investments on the several species of goods bought on the new plan at the Aurungs compared with the same kinds bought off or contracted for with the merchants. The sales of which have answered even beyond our expectation in favour of the former, and was in no kinds more remarkable than in the Orua Cossacs, and Mulmuls and Doreas Cossajura; the common sort of the two last kinds purchased at the Aurungs, sold from twenty to thirty per cent. higher than what are invoiced as fine bought of the merchants per *Durrington* and *Flamouth* at much higher prices. The Mumuls Santipore in general are neither amended in quality or reduced in price in proportion to most other sorts purchased at the Aurungs.

37. Since our said list of investment was drawn out, we have made a thorough inspection into the several articles purchased at our Factory at Dacca, and the sales have but too well confirmed in our sentiments thereon, and in the persuasion that your reprimands to the gentlemen there was what their conduct had very justly exposed them to. Notwithstanding our repeated complaints for these three years past in regard to the bad quality, as well as great advance in price of the most considerable articles of their investment, we find as much reason as ever to complain of the bad quality of almost every article of their fine goods. The Seerbetties, Alliball, Mulmuls, Terrindams, Nainsooks and Seerhandeonnaes, are in general very bad in kind, and unless the two last articles can be procured of a quality nearly equal to what we have formerly received they will be quite unsaleable. It is the more extraordinary that we should be under a necessity of repeating these complaints at a time that the quality of several species of the Calcutta investment is not only amended, but the price reduced, and must give us no very favourable impressions of the conduct of those gentlemen at Dacca who have been principally intrusted with the care of the investments, which we shall expect you to enquire as fully as carefully into, and show the strongest mark of our resentment to those whose behaviour hath exposed them thereto.

38. The fine Dacca Doreas in general have proved very indifferent, insomuch that only four bales out of nine put up at our late sale would sell, and those at a bare advance. The broader sort of two covids and quarter per *Durrington* went dearest of all, and would not sell. The bale of superfine per *Flamouth* and that per *Durrington* sold well, but so bad is the general quality of fine goods of that Factory, that unless it can be greatly improved, and brought up to the musters of former years, we shall be under a necessity of reducing very greatly our investment there.

39. By the ship *Durrington* we received two bales superfine Mulmuls forty-five covids long, Nos. 1 and 2; some of them are very curious, and cannot suppose so high a price should have been given had they not been bought or contracted for on a muster of one of the best pieces, whereas in the best bale there were some pieces thirty per cent. inferior in quality to others. In the lower priced bale there was a much greater difference, as well as a greater number of very frayie uneven, bad pieces; if they could be procured of an even quality, and without such a mixture of bad pieces, they would answer, but with them we apprehend they will be found very unsaleable.

40. In answer to the 20th and 21st paragraph of your letter, the *Flamouth*, we shall point out to you the several articles therein mentioned which either will not sell or sell at so small an advance as to discourage us from ordering more of them, *viz.*, Allibannies, Romalls Canpore Charconnae, New Romalls Barnagore and Doosooties, twenty-four covids long and two and a half broad, ditto twenty-four covids long and two broad, ditto Romalls, Cuttanees and ditto flowered. The Carridarries of all sorts sell very ill; those of the common sort called Carridarries Chicow excepted, of which kind you may send us five hundred pieces (500), and if the price of the common sort can be reduced, you must reduce the quantity ordered of each kind per list of investment to five hundred pieces, the superfine Carridarries Chicow will not sell.

41. The Nainsooks and Seerhandeonnaes Jugdea are a good kind of cloth, but come so very dear that they sold with difficulty at a bare advance.

42. The Herba Lungees and Atchabannies per *Flamouth* sold tolerably well. and would have the full quantity ordered per list of investment of those kinds, Fine Seersuckers in general sold well, more especially the two bales of a new sort, Nos. 1 and 2, per *Flamouth*; the low ones sell for a bare advance only. The Tanjebs Sierra will answer, and shall expect the quantity ordered. The Mulmul Radge Cullubpury were tolerably good, but will not do in any large quantity.

43. The Photues of the common sort being all of one pattern sell very indifferently, which is entirely owing to the want of variety of checks which is evident from the sale of those called the Dutch sort, of which we had five bales per *Flamouth*, which though bought near one rupee per piece cheaper sell for more than the former. You must therefore reduce the common sort, and send us as many more of the Dutch sort which contain a variety of differing checks or patterns in the same bale.

44. The Callapattip and Cossaes Chaundpore are well approved of; of each of those articles we would have five hundred pieces (500). The Mulmuls Sabadgepore are good for their price, and would have the quantity ordered of them per list of investment; as to the Mulmuls Santipore forty covids long and three broad, we find them of a very indifferent quality. If they cannot be procured of a better fabrick and more free from frayies they will not answer.

45. The Doreas Charconne Cossajura per *Flamouth* proved very good, and sold for a great price, but would be still more valuable if they could be made as even, but a little thinner that the checks might appear more clear and distinct. What we have already observed in relation to the Gurrahs, we find confirmed by the sale, that those purchased at the Aurungs have found a preference, and those of lower prices sold equally well with more advanced ones of those purchased of the merchants.

46. The bad circumstances of the generality of the merchants employed in the providing your investments, their many impositions and non-confidence with their contracts have for a long time been so notorious, that other measures were absolutely necessary to be taken; we cannot therefore but look upon their obstinacy and insolence in their treaty with you for the investment of 1753 as the occasion of one of the luckiest incidents that could have happened to the Company; we mean the laying you under the necessity of making the investment in a new method, which from your accounts of it and the great advantage we have in its very infancy experienced by the superior quality of the goods provided under your New Regulations, has been already a great advantage in point of profit, and will, we are satisfied, be productive of much greater, if pursued with zeal and vigour and conducted with integrity. We hope therefore

you will convince us, by steadily pursuing this plan, that you have our real interest at heart, and that the intimations we have had of the inclinations of some of the Board to return to the old method again may prove groundless, especially as they go so far as to hint that the merchants have found or are in hopes to find a way to reconcile them again to their interest.

47. And here we think it necessary to recommend it to your serious consideration, whether the investments at the subordinate settlements may not be made in the same manner as at Calcutta, and if you find it practicable and as advantageous, you are hereby empowered to give directions to our servants to proceed upon the like plan.

48. Although this new method of sending Gomastahs to the Aurungs is what we highly approve of, yet it must be attended to with great care, and in particular no one person whatsoever ought to have an undue influence upon the Gomastahs. It was for that reason that we directed in our last letter that all the correspondence with and management of them was to be carried on by a Committee to be composed of the President, the second in Council, or in his absence the next in station to him (Major excepted), and the Export Warehousekeeper, which Committee is to report its proceedings from time to time to the Board. We hereby confirm those directions, with this addition that it is our meaning the said Committee is always to consist of four persons of which the President and the Export Warehousekeeper and his assistant are to be three and one other of the Council whom you shall think the best qualified for it.

49. Great care must be likewise taken not to risque much of our estate at a time in the Gomastah's hands, and that they give at all times sufficient and undoubted security to be answerable for what they are entrusted with, and that notwithstanding your method of sending a Cash-keeper with every Gomastah who by way of a check keeps one key of the cash chest, yet the Gomastah is to be accountable for all the money you advance him.

50. It was one of your resolutions that no Gomastah should be entrusted with more than twenty thousand rupees at one time, which we think a sum fully sufficient if not more than necessary; but upon an inspection of the state of the Aurungs transmitted to us by the *Flamouth* you have in many instances considerably exceeded that sum; particularly it appears there was owing to the Company as a balance from Hurricall Aurung forty seven thousand eight hundred and seventy one rupees nine annas and nine pice, of which thirty thousand rupees was in cash and four thousand in the Deloll's hands, the remainder was cloth in the godown and in the washerman's; this with the other instant in the said state has the appearance of too much remissness at first setting out, as you have given no reasons for so doing.

51. Many regulations must occur to you as you proceed on this plan necessary for the better conducting it (which cannot be thought of by us) for the safety of our estate, the good quality and cheapness of the goods, as likewise for the early provision of them, for all which we must and shall depend upon your integrity and judgment.

52. And here we cannot help observing that had you entered upon the consideration of your investment sooner, we might reasonably have expected even upon your new plan a much larger quantity of goods; the want whereof, together with the lateness of their arrival, have much distressed us, but we depend upon your having made us ample amends for the disappointment by a large and early investment in 1754, especially as you had a flow of cash for the purpose.

53. Your opening the cottah to receive any ready money goods made in or near Calcutta, and your setting the weavers to work upon Romalls and other goods fabricated in our bounds, meet with our entire approbation, and we hope you will prosecute this branch likewise with the utmost vigour.

54. It has appeared to us very extraordinary, that so exceeding populace a place like Calcutta is, and no doubt inhabited by great numbers of weavers, should be of so little immediate benefit to us. The merchants have employed those useful people and have hitherto run away with the advantange which we might with equal ease have obtained. But thanks to the conduct of those merchants which has drove you to expedients which might not otherways have been

thought of, you now find may sorts of goods are fabricated within our bounds, cheap and of good qualities, and may be had at the first hand as it is evidently for our interest. Therefore, to encourage not only all the weavers now in our bounds but likewise to draw as many others as possible from all countries to reside under our protection, we shall depend upon your utmost efforts to accomplish the same, and shall hope the time is not far off wherein we shall find a great share of your investment made under your own eyes.

55. The merchants' behaviour has been such as to deserve no favour. You have therefore acted very rightly in keeping them strictly to the terms of their contract by obliging them to pay the penalties they had incurred according to your statement of their accounts.

56. The utmost attention must be always had to the conduct of our servants at the subordinates through whose hands so great a proportion of our estate passes. The annual remarks we have made in our lists of investments, together with what appears upon the face of your letters and consultations, especially those received last season, show the necessity of it. At Cossimbazar our servants have so remarkably fallen off, in that once valuable article of raw silk, not to mention others that we cannot suppress the suspicion that must naturally arise against their management. Our servants at Dacca likewise, who for a considerable time gave us great satisfaction, have of late done quite the reverse, and we have as much reason to complain of our people at Jugdea. In short, we have too much reason to believe our servants at the several subordinates in one shape or the other unfaithfully interest themselves at our expense in the investment, and we are the more induced to believe so far from the observation we have made upon the Delolls of Jugdea, complaint against Mr. Bayley and Playdell, which was under your examination upon the departure of the *Flamouth*, together with some hints which have been given us of unfair practices at Dacca, which we are not yet sufficiently apprized of to mention, to all which add the very extraordinary instance of Mr. Wogan's raising from nothing such a fortune at Dacca as it is generally reported he has brought home, although so young and long in the service. Upon the whole, there appears a real necessity that their future conduct should be well looked after, and scrutiny made into their past management.

57. We therefore hereby direct that immediately upon the receipt of this a supervising Committee be formed which is to be composed of the President for the time being, Mr. Charles Manningham, Mr. Richard Beecher, and Mr. John Zepheriah Holwell, and in case of the death or absence of any of the before mentioned persons the President is to fill up the said Committee to the number of four with such other members of the Council as he shall judge best qualified for such an important trust.

58. This Committee is to enquire into the manner of making the investments and the management in general at the subordinate settlements; they are likewise to enquire into the particular conduct of our servants employed there for some time past, now, and in future, and whether they have or do make any unjust advantages, and what in the management of the investment or in any other branches of their employés, and they are to consider of and point out such regulation as they shall think necessary, and the said Committee is empowered to send for such books and papers and examine all such persons, whether blacks or whites, as they shall judge can give any information in the matters before them, and they are to report the facts with their opinion upon the whole to the Council Board from time to time. The Board is then to take into consideration the said reports and determine thereupon impartially and according to the best of their judgments, always remembering to do the utmost in their power to recover what the Company are defrauded off. And you are further directed to enter all such reports, together with your proceedings thereupon at large, in your diary for our information.

59. If it shall be found necessary to send any one of the Committee to the subordinate settlements we would have Mr. Holwell proceed thither, unless he shall represent that his absence will be of great prejudice to the Company in his particular employ as zemindar, and in that case one other of the Committee is to be sent, the President excepted.

60. If the said Committee shall think it necessary to have any persons in our service suspended, you are accordingly to suspend them until our pleasure is known, unless you find good reasons to the contrary.

61. As the trust reposed in this Committee is of great importance, and their proceedings will, we are satisfied, be attended with many good consequences, we require every member of the Council and every person in our service to be aiding and assisting to the utmost of their power to the said Committee if they expect a continuance of our favour.

62. As the entrusting the conduct and management of our affairs at the subordinates to people of experience is of the highest concernment to the Company, it must be observed by you for the future as a standing rule or order, that our set of servants at Cossimbazar do consist of two of your Council and one senior merchant at least, besides junior servants; at Dacca, of one of your Council, a senior merchant and junior servants, and that one of the best qualified servants next below your Council be always appointed Chief of Jugdea Luckapore or wherever else the Jugdea settlement shall be moved to.

FOURTHLY, OF THE TRADE OF INDIA AND TRANSACTIONS WITH THE COUNTRY GOVERNMENT.

63. It appears very strange that the Dutch Director and Council at Hughly should not long ago have made the claim you mention, with regard to some transactions with the Ostenders in the year 1733, if they were satisfied it was a reasonable demand upon us; your not complying with the demand without our directions was right, but at the same time that you transmitted it to us, you ought to have sent us what account you could find of it in your books and registers of that time, together with your opinion upon the whole, for want of which we can give you no other directions than that, if the demand is renewed, you must give us the best informations you can collect of the nature and justness of this demand and wait our further orders.

64. We agree in our sentiments with you that as the Armenians enjoy the benefit of our protection, they ought to pay consulage equally with the Europeans. You are therefore to continue collecting it agreeable to our former orders, unless you find it will be attended with any bad consequences.

65. You must use all prudent measures by applications to the Darbar and other ways to get relieved from the impositions of the Chokeys planted up and down the country represented to us in your letter of the 4th of January, but at the same time you must be extremely careful to prevent all abuses of the Dusticks, that the Government may have no pretences to interrupt the trade on that account, which we are afraid they have sometime too much reason for.

66. We observe your proceedings on occasion of the prohibiting the importation of rice from Bahergu into Calcutta, and the stand you made against complying with the demand of three thousand rupees for a Pervannah to take of the said prohibition, which for the reasons you give we approve of, and we shall depend upon your conduct to procure the free importation of grain in such a manner as according to circumstances you shall judge best to prevent the necessity and misery which must be the certain consequences of a scarcity in such a populous place as Calcutta.

67. We do not find any other material complaint against the country Government in the course of your advices now before us, excepting that we see an extreme readiness to lay hold of every opportunity that will afford the least occasion for exacting money, which we hope you will take great care not to give them any real or plausible pretences for. It requires great prudence to ward them off, and the keeping a good correspondence with the Nabob and his Darbar; and giving now and then a timely present agreeable to our former directions, we still think to be the most likely method of effecting it.

68. We wish the removal from Jugdea to Luckapore may not be the effects of bad conduct in Messrs. Bayley and Playdell. We must therefore wait for a result of your enquiry into their conduct before we can give any further directions than we did last year; that we must depend upon your conducting it to the best advantage, and with regard to their proposal for farming the district of Luckapore on our account you did right not complying therewith without our orders, but you ought to have given us your sentiments whether you thought

it eligible or not; and before we give our consent, you must send them to us very explicitly, and your opinion whether the renting that district may be of any, and what advantage, or the contrary?

69. Upon occasion of Mr. Holwell's motion to take more effectual possession of Patna Factory, we find you were of opinion that without our leave for re-establishing that factory it would be of no benefit to send a Covenanted servant thither, but on the contrary would make us liable to exaction, and we think you judged right; although from past experience we shall not be induced without good reasons to resettle at Patna, yet we shall be very glad to have your thoughts upon it, and therefore direct that you take this affair into your serious consideration and lay before us the advantages and disadvantages that may attend such an undertaking, together with your opinion upon the whole; and if it shall be your opinion that a resettlement may be of utility to the Company, you are to point out the manner and method of effecting it to the greatest advantage.

70. The death of the Nabob is an event that may on account of his great age be daily expected, and as it is highly probable it may be attended with great confusion and troubles in the province before another can be securely seated; we therefore recommend to you whenever it happens to take all prudent measures to preserve our possessions, effects and privileges, and standing only upon the defence to observe to the utmost of your power the strictest neutrality between the competitors. It was with a view to this event that in our last letter we so readily approved of Colonel Scott's proposals for rendering the settlement more defensible; and as it did not appear to be a work of time or much expense, we hope your next advices will inform us it is near if not fully completed.

71. We advised you by the ships of last season that we had for a considerable time been in treaty with the French East India Company for an accommodation of the differences between the two Companies on the coast of Coromandel; but notwithstanding our readiness to agree to all reasonable and honourable terms, the difficulties thrown in the way by the French Minister and Company, together with their usual chicanery, have hitherto prevented those differences from being terminated by a happy treaty; however, as one of the Commissaries still continues in England, we are not absolutely without hopes, it will at last be attended with success, for which no endeavours on our part should be wanting.

FIFTHLY, OF FORTIFICATIONS, BUILDINGS AND REVENUES.

72. Having in our last letter being very full with regard to the fortifications and works at your Presidency and the methods to be observed in conducting them, we have at present little more to say than what relates to the revenues.

73. We have with great attention perused and considered Mr. Holwell's state of our revenues at Calcutta, Mr. Frankland's remarks, Mr. Holwell's reply, and the other papers relative thereto, and we must in justice to Mr. Holwell acquaint you that he accounts for the mistakes which have happened in the State in a manner that convinces us they were mere inadvertencies and no way calculated to impose upon us. That he has evidently increased our revenues to a very considerable amount without imposing any new duties or oppressing the poor; but on the contrary several old ones have been abolished and the poor in many instances relieved; and we must as a further piece of justice to him add that the insinuations of his raising his own character with us at the expense of the reputations of the gentlemen who preceded him in his office of jemindar are entirely without foundation. In short, his integrity, capacity and application have rendered him so well worthy our notice that we are determined most heartily to countenance and protect him in all his endeavours to serve the Company.

74. It was very natural to expect, when a piece of such importance as Mr. Holwell's state of our revenue was laid before you, which as so long ago as the 17th of December 1752, that you should have given it a speedy and serious consideration in order to have informed us of your sentiments upon an affair of such a complicated nature, but how great is our disappointment and surprise

to find you have not from that time to the despatch of the *Flamouth* in the beginning of March last considered it as a Board so as to come to any resolutions or opinion for our information, but have transmitted to us the remarks of one member only who, notwithstanding what you say in your letter of the 4th of January 1754, does not appear upon the face of any of your consultations to have been authorized to collect and make remarks for your information, as ought to have been done if you intended to have proceeded with any regularity in an affair of such consequence; and it is very observable that those remarks were designedly, as we have reason to believe, delivered in so late in the season as rendered it extremely difficult for Mr. Holwell to reply to them in time to obviate the impressions they might have made on us to his prejudice; but however well qualified Mr. Frankland may be to execute a work of such a nature, it ought to have been the business of a Committee regularly appointed for the purpose and not the result of the voluntary enquiry of one person only; and we shall be greatly disappointed if we do not find you took that method upon the departure of the *Flamouth* so as that we may receive by the next ship at furthest a full and satisfactory account of your proceedings in, and sentiments upon this affair.

75. But if you have still delayed to enter upon the examination of the state of the office of Jeminder and the several papers which have passed upon the occasion, you are hereby positively directed immediately to set about the same, in order for stating for our information the advantages and disadvantages of the present plan, and pointing out what alterations and regulations you think necessary to be made in it as well for the advantage of the Company as the ease and common benefit of the people.

76. We must here remark that the office of Jemindar of Calcutta is of so complicated a nature, and the business so various and burthensome, that it is almost impossible it should be conducted under the direction of one person. You are therefore to consider whether it may not be divided into several branches, to be managed by different persons; and if you think such an alteration may be of general utility, you are to point out the proper methods of carrying it into execution. In proposing such a division, we have a view not only to the general utility which may be the result, but likewise to ease Mr. Holwell as far as it is consistent from the heavy load of business he labours under, that we may have the benefit of his abilities in other material branches of our affairs.

77. You are likewise to point out to us what duty or fines appear to be particularly grievous upon the poorest sort of people, such as the duty on marriages which we think ought to be either totally abolished or levied with great regard to circumstances, and the duty called Etlack,* if it is necessary to be continued, ought to be used with moderation and greatly redressed.

78. You must send us an account of your whole proceedings in this affair as soon as possible, and wait for our confirmation and further commands, except that you may carry into execution such regulations as shall appear to be immediately necessary without waiting for orders.

79. And here we must recommend it to you to fix upon all the bazars and other the most public places in the town, in the different languages, exact accounts of all the duties, fees of office and all other allowed collections upon all sorts of goods, provisions, necessaries and other particulars which contribute to our revenues, for the information of the people in general, and you must take effectual care that the farmers' collectors and others do not exact a pice more than is allowed, and you are hereby directed to transmit to us for our information, copies of such public note.

80. It is our inclination and intention that the inhabitants be governed with mildness and equity, and not oppressed by grievous duties, yet at the same time the increase of our revenues in general must be the constant object of your care, as far as it may be reasonable and without oppression extended.

81. We think the duty of five per cent. proposed to be levied on the sale of houses belonging to Europeans and others in the white town as mentioned in your letter of the 4th of January is reasonable, and we direct, therefore, that it be levied.

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* Etlack, properly Itlack. H. (literal, liberating, setting free.) In Hindustan, the office and records of summons, and fees on their delivery. Under the Mohammadan Government fees paid by suitors on the decision of their causes; also a fee exacted from defendant as wages for a peon stationed over him as soon as a complaint was preferred against him. Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.

82. We can form no judgment of the reasonableness or otherways of the proposal mentioned in your said letter of the 4th of January in relation to converting the ground rent called cowries into siccas, and raising the half-rent into whole rent, because we cannot have a sight of Mr. Holwell's letter, which, although said to be entered into your diary, is carelessly omitted, and a copy has not been transmitted us, as it ought to have been.

83. Although in the present circumstances of the Company, we cannot afford to lessen our revenues unless it is absolutely necessary for relieving the distresses of the poor, we hope that only has been the motive for your taking the gunge into your hands and lowering the duty upon the import of grain; and although in extraordinary cases we leave you a discretional power to act according to the best of your judgment, you must always remember to levy the old duties whenever circumstances will admit of it.

84. The importation of your ships and vessels of Foreign Ports upon the coast of Coromandel, must without doubt greatly prejudice that branch of our revenues, the customs; and the President and Council of Fort St. George did their duty in representing to you the bad consequences of it, and the necessity of reviving the standing order of the 31st January 1734. Although we are desirous of indulging all our servants in a freedom of trade, yet we will not allow of its being carried on in any respects to the prejudice of the Company; on the contrary, whoever enjoys the benefit of our protection ought to contribute as far as lies in their power towards the expenses we are constantly put to on that account. We therefore do most earnestly recommend it to you to take care that no ships or vessels belonging to yourselves, our other servants or any person trading under the Company's protection, do load their cargos or any part thereof at any ports, either European or Moors, to the northward or southward of Fort St. George, but at Fort St. George itself, or such other factories or settlement, which belong to us, unless very satisfactory reasons are given to the contrary at either or both Presidencies. We have directed our President and Council of Fort St. George, as we now do you, to acquaint us from time to time how this recommendation is complied with, that we may show a proper resentment against such persons, who shall be regardless of our interests, in order to prevent any restraints upon trade. We have laid our positive command upon the President and Council of Fort St. George to take the utmost care to invite and encourage trade by the general good usage of all persons who may resort to Fort St. George or its subordinate settlements for that purpose, and in particular by suffering them to buy and sell publicly or privately as they them selves shall choose to deal freely and without restraint with whoever they shall think proper, and that if any of our servants at that Presidency shall prevent or endeavour to prevent such a freedom of trade on any pretence whatsoever, we have acquainted them they will incur our highest displeasure.

85. And the more effectually to prevent all combination, monopolies and attempts upon the freedom of trade, we have directed our said President and Council to affix up in the most public places at Fort St. George and the several subordinate settlements in the usual languages, publications for the notice of all persons, of these our intentions; that they may be entirely freed from the apprehensions of being hindered, imposed upon and oppressed in their trade by the Governor, the Members of the Council, our inferior servants or any other persons whatsoever, and we have directed them to transmit to us for our information a copy of such publications.

86. What we have laid down in the preceding paragraphs must be observed by you and all our servants as inviolable rules for the good usage of traders and entire freedom of trade at our Presidency of Fort William; and you are hereby commanded to give public notice thereof accordingly, and send to us for our information copy of the publications you make on the occasion.

SIXTHLY AND SEVENTHLY, OF COVENANTED AND MILITARY SERVANTS AND ACCOUNTS.

87. In our last letter you were acquainted we had permitted Mr. William Rider to return to his station according to his original standing. He took his passage on the *Bombay Castle*, Fort St. George, from whence he will make the best of his way to you by some other conveyance.

88. The eight young gentlemen whom we acquainted we had appointed to be writers upon the Bengal Establishment, *viz.*, John Dod, Richard Tarriano, John Burdett, William Knapton, Henry Lushington, George Ballard, Francis Charlton, and Castle Gray; all of them proceeded on the *Hardwicke.*

89. We now send you a list of the names of such persons as have our permission to reside in India, as free merchants in the seafaring way or otherways.

90. Having taken into consideration the case of the certain young engineers who were assistants to the late Mr. Robins, we do agree and direct that they be immediately put upon the footing of covenanted servants, and that they have the salaries and appointments of covenanted servants according to their standing, that is to say, those that landed with Mr. Robins from the day of their arrival and Mr. John Call from the day Mr. Robins first engaged him, upon this condition however that they still serve us as Engineers, so long as we shall have occasion to employ them in that capacity, or until our further pleasure is known. They are over and above their appointments as covenanted servants to have such allowances as they shall merit in their capacity of engineers; we do not choose at present to fix them on the establishment of any particular Presidency as they are to be occasionally employed wherever our Engineer-General shall think them most useful, however they are to rank and be paid during their residence at any of our Presidencies in the manner before-mentioned.

91. Although you have caused Charles O'Hara to execute the covenants transmitted to us by the *Portfield* as a writer upon the Bengal Establishment, yet we reserve to ourselves the liberty of stationing him at either of our other Presidencies of Fort St. George or Bombay as we shall hereafter think fit. We have given directions to the President and Council of Fort St. George to cause the other assistants to the late Mr. Robins to execute covenants there with the like reservation of stationing them at Bengal or Bombay. Mr. O'Hara must write to his friends to give the usual security for his performance of covenants.

92. Mr. Manningham having discharged his duty as standing Export Warehouse-keeper greatly to our satisfaction, and depending upon the same conduct so long as he shall continue in that post, which is to be until we signify our orders to the contrary, you are hereby directed to pay him current rupees four thousand a year over and above his salary and appointments as one of the Council, which is to commence from the time you received our orders for appointing him Export Warehouse-keeper, and is to continue so long as he remains in that post, but the said allowance is to be paid on this express condition that it is to be in lieu of all fees, rewards or perquisites whatsoever as Export Warehouse-keeper.

93. But you are hereby directed not to make the said allowance of four thousand current rupees to any person whatsoever who shall succeed or follow Mr. Manningham in the post of Export Warehouse-keeper without our express leave as we shall not continue it but to persons who give us good proofs of their behaviour in it as Mr. Manningham.

94. Mr. Holwell has highly merited our particular notice and encouragement, and the least we can do for him is to let him rise in our service equally with the rest of our servants. We do therefore hereby annul and make void the restriction in our commands of the 8th of January 1752, by which he was fixed as twelfth and last of Council, and to remain so without rising to a superior rank therein; and we direct that upon the receipt of Mr. Holwell take rank and his seat at the Board according to the time of his arrival in Bengal in the same manner as if no such restriction had been made, that is to say, next below Mr. Mathew Collett. But, however, it is our meaning and direction that Mr. Holwell do still continue Jemindar, and that he is not to quit that post without our leave.

95. And here we think it proper to declare our sentiments for the encouragement of our servants in general, that such of them as shall by their abilities, integrity and zealous endeavours to serve the Company render themselves objects of our favour, will certainly be taken due notice of.

96. As it is extremely material that all our servants in general should acquire a knowledge of investment, we direct that every junior servant be

employed part of his time in the cottah, and that the Export Warehouse-keeper do take the necessary care to employ and instruct them in such a manner as may effectually answer our intentions.

97. Your reasons for not employing our junior servants in their turn at the subordinate settlements are unsatisfactory; we therefore insist upon your carrying into execution the directions we gave for that purpose in our general letter of the 24th of January 1753.

98. The account you gave of the behaviour of Mr. John Wood, who is under covenants as a free merchant, was such as made it necessary to preserve the authority you are vested with from contempt to order him to proceed to England, and we approve of your caution in giving him a year's notice. As it appears you found upon a strict enquiry into the conduct of Mr. Bodley on the Malabar coast, that his behaviour was highly culpable, you did right in obeying our commands for ordering him likewise home, and you may depend upon our supporting you in all your just and impartial proceedings against such persons as do not deserve the benefit of our protection.

99. We must suppose you were fully satisfied with the truth of the fact represented by Mr. Goddard for his not complying with your notice for proceeding to England, and shall therefore admit it as a reasonable excuse for that time, but we insist upon our repeated orders being put into immediate execution, unless you can give convincing reasons to the contrary.

100. It was and still continues necessary that you are at all times ready to check and prevent the expensive manner of living and the strong bias to pleasure, which notwithstanding what you say to the contrary we well know too much prevails among all ranks and degrees of our servants in Bengal, and we do assure you that it will give us great satisfaction to find by your action that we shall have no further reason to complain on this head.

101. The original intention of having accounts laid before the Board at certain periods was that proper remarks should be made upon them before they are passed, but it plainly appears upon an inspection of your consultation book, that you look upon the method as mere form, and we have too much reason to believe that they *do not* undergo examination whatsoever. In order therefore to prevent frauds and irregularities which are and may be covered or unobserved by this loose manner of passing accounts you are hereby directed to appoint a committee which is to consist of two, three or more of the Council and such a number of our servants next the Council, as you shall judge will best answer the intention. The President is to be one of the Committee and be present whenever he can conveniently. To this Committee all matters relating to accounts are to be referred who are to examine and state facts and report the same to the Board, together with their opinion upon the whole. All monthly and other accounts passed at certain periods must likewise be strictly examined by this Committee, who are to report their observations upon them and give their opinion whether it is fit they should be passed. Every person present at such Committee is to sign his name to the several reports, which reports are to be read in consultation previous to the passing the accounts they relate to; and are to be duly entered in your diary for our observation.

102. Committees must likewise be appointed upon the same plan to examine and state facts, and give their opinion on all affairs that require consideration and attention.

103. But all the rules and directions we can lay down will be of no effect, nor can we ever expect to see our affairs properly conducted, unless the President for the time being agreeable to his situation and the real intention of his post is a General Inspector and Supervisor of the whole Machine. In that light we look upon the President, and we expect Mr. Drake will exert himself accordingly. We shall then find that the several important posts which have been hitherto conducted too independently will be properly checked and controlled, and our servants in general will likewise be in all respects kept to their duty. Whenever, therefore, the President shall lay before you any complaints or observations upon the conduct or management of our servants of any rank or degree, or proposes any regulations for the better management of our affairs in

general, or any particular branches of them, you are seriously to attend to and consider them, and apply such remedies as the nature of them requires.

104. Whatever directions we give to you must always be understood to extend to all your subordinate settlements as far as circumstances will admit, and you are to give the necessary orders accordingly.

105. In consequence of the authority the President is vested with, he is to call upon the several persons employed to see in what manner their business is executed, and prevent giving us such continual reasons for complaint; for we are sorry to say that almost all the books, papers and accounts received this season with regard to method as well as writing are faulty and slovenly to a degree that we are quite ashamed of, and plainly show the great negligence of both our superior and junior servants.

106. The Consultation book in particular is very faulty and in abundance of respects, especially as many material papers and accounts are omitted to be entered and the greatest part of it so carelessly copied as to be hardly legible, and the General books have equal faults to be found in them.

107. It is a Bye Law of this Company that the Court of Directors shall annually in the month of June cause a general state of the Company's affairs to be drawn out and laid before them; this is the principal reason for our directing you to send us by every opportunity an account of your quick stock and at the same time be obvious how correct that account ought to be to answer purposes for which it is intended. But you sent us none of your packets which was forwarded in September last by the way of Fort St. George or by the *Portfield*, neglects that you must never again be guilty of, and we must observe that the accounts in general are not so exact and methodical as they would be if the directions we formerly gave were punctually observed and which therefore must be more carefully attended to in future. In particular you must make a memorandum at the foot of them of goods or money either received or sent to our other Presidencies near the time the account is dated, as otherways the balance thereof by being discharged from yours and not received at the Presidency they are consigned to may not be accounted for at either. This was the case in the accounts transmitted to us by the *Oxford*, the invoices by the *Hector* and *Durrington* for Bombay being neither included in yours or the Bombay Accounts of Quick Stock.

108. We last year sent you particular directions with regard to the manner of keeping your General Books so as to render them not so voluminous for the future which you must exactly attend to, as we find you have previously made some regulations of the like kind though not exactly in the method we have pointed out.

109. We now forward some remarks made by our Accountant-General upon your last books which you are to take due notice of, particularly of the irregular seperating the invoices of the cargos sent you into several parts and making as many entries in the journal as there are parts or parcels and some in very distant pages, a method which must necessarily occasion confusion and is liable to mistakes.

110. Many mistakes and omissions appear in your Bills of Exchange and your advices relative to them again this season all owing to want of care and attention, and not giving us occasion to repeat our complaints so often on this head.

111. From the large sums of money which have been remitted to England by Bills of Exchange upon us for money paid into our cash by several of the Commanders of our ships, we have some reason to suspect they are the produce of illicit trade; you must therefore for the future oblige every Commander to make oath before you agreeable to his instructions, that the money paid in by him is in part of his allowed privileges and profits thereon, and that he neither has taken up, or will take up money in India to trade withal in the room of it; upon your so doing you are to grant a certificate for the amount.

112. The books of standing orders transmitted to us by the *Portfield* is very defective, and particularly for more than ten years past. We therefore positively insist upon and direct that you turn twenty years backward at least and make a careful abstract from our commands to you, not only of what are

therein particularly termed standing orders, but of whatever else shall be judged to be rules of conduct, and here you are not to fail on any pretence whatsoever, and that we must be assured of your compliance, you are not to fail sending us a copy as soon as it can be possibly completed. That this collection must be made with judgment it must be performed by one or more of your ablest hands.

113. All papers of consequence any way relative to the Company or their affairs should be constantly made a part of your packets, and accordingly inserted in the lists. To show you how defective you have been in this particular we now send you an account of such papers, only which ought to have been inserted in the *Flamouth's* packet as a specimen of many other omissions of the like nature.

114. Although the officers and military recruits on the ships *Eastcourt* and *Duke of Dorsett* are intended for your Presidency, we are apprehensive the President and Council of Fort St. George will be under the necessity of making use of the liberty we have given of detaining them for our service on the Coast of Coromandel. Under these circumstances, we can only recommend it to you with the assistance of Colonel Scott to recruit and keep up your garrison in the best manner in your power until from a happy turn our affairs you may be supplied in the usual manner.

115. We observe and approve of the method the President and Council of Fort St. George have agreed upon of continuing the detachments belonging to and intended for Bengal as properly belonging to the Bengal Establishment, and it would be a hardship on the officers to lose their rank and Presidency by serving us on the Coast of Coromandel. We therefore direct that all the officers as well as those sent out for Bengal as those who command the detachments sent directly by you to the assistance of Fort St. George, do preserve their rank upon the Bengal Establishment without being superseded in case of their return.

116. To obviate a doubt which has been made, we now declare it to be our intention and meaning that the Captains of the Artillery Company (and not the Major) is to provide the clothing for the Company in the same manner as the Captains of the other Companies are allowed that privilege by our Military Regulations.

117. It is but justice that the officers of the Artillery Company have equal encouragement with the rest of our forces. We therefore direct that they do succeed according to their ranks to vacancies as they happen in the Military Companies, provided you are fully satisfied of their merits and good behaviour.

118. If it is practicable for the Buxerys employed in the Jemindary to be rendered useful as a Military body under the command of Colonel Scott without putting the Jemindar to difficulties in the execution of the judicature branch of his office, we think it a desirable measure. We therefore recommend it to you to reconsider this case and determine upon it as you shall judge may be most conducive to our interest.

EIGHTHLY, CONCERNING THE CHARTER.

119. With your general letter the *Flamouth* we received the following papers :—

A complaint of Messrs. Rannie and Kelsell Elderman against Messrs. Goddard and Gray with their answer and the determination of our President and Council thereon.. Copy of the Proceedings in the Mayor's Court relating to Deepchund's deposit with a letter from Mr. Dumbleton to Mr. Cole, our Solicitor.

Proceedings of the Mayor's Court in the case of Solomon Margas and Sophia Aratoon.

Letter from Mr. Kelsall and others to the Court of Directors for enlarging the sums cognizable by them to one hundred rupees.

Letter from the Mayor's Court to the Court of Directors, wherein most of the particulars before mentioned are repeated.

120. We shall consider these papers in the order we have stated them.

121. On the 30th of October 1753 a rule of the Mayor's Court was made to oblige executors and administrators to deliver in inventories and accounts of the estates of the person they represented within the times therein limited, which order we are of opinion was a very right and proper one.

122. On the 6th and 15th November 1753 Mr. Alderman Rannie made other motions for the further regulation of executors and administrators. The subject of these motions however substantially right in themselves do not seem to us to be so properly rules of practice as laying down rules for what should be the judgment of the Court upon cases that may come before them. But however that may be, they were not questions in any particular cause then immediately under the consideration of the Court, but were motions only for the forming general rules of practice, which rules if they had been agreed to by the Court were to affect all persons in general, and were not calculated to affect any one person in particular or by name upon questions of this nature and which carried are to be the acts of the Court. We are of opinion every member of this Court has a right to give his opinion and vote as he thinks fit, and the Court ought not to have received Mr. Dumbleton's information. We think Mr. Goddard and Mr. Gray had a right as Aldermen to vote in these questions, and that our Governor and Council were likewise right in dismissing the application that was made to them for removing Mr. Goddard and Mr. Gray from their office of Aldermen on this account.

123. As to Dipchand's deposit, Mr. Cole being the plaintiff in cause obtained a decree to have Dipchand's deposit paid to him with interest and costs. From this decree an appeal was brought before the King in Council, upon hearing whereof the decree was reversed as to interest and cost, and upon our President and Council giving security to pay the costs of the re-hearing, our President and Council have a year's time given them from the service of the Order in Council to proceed in the cause in the manner mentioned in that order. Mr. Cole never served this order, and it seems rather to have been his duty to have carried this order into execution. In the meantime Mr. Cole died, and his executor renounced the execution of his will, so that there is no representative of him before the Court, and therefore we are of opinion the Mayor's Court were right in dismissing the application of our President and Council to have the deposit paid to them, inasmuch as their complying with it would have been an *ex parte* judgment without hearing what could be said against it by Mr. Cole's representative. We are advised nothing can be done in this cause till it is revived by a representative of Mr. Cole's and our President and Council are served with the order of the King in Council, and then such proceedings must be had as the order directs and according to the instructions we sent with it, and in the meantime the deposit must be delivered over to the Accountant-General agreeable to the directions of the Charter.

124. The case of Margas and Aratoon is very singular. In England the person and estate of lunatics are by the King's prerogative under His Majesty's immediate direction. A writ issues to enquire by a jury whether the party is a lunatic or not, and upon being found to be so, the custody of his person is granted usually to one person and that of his estate to another, and the Lord Chancellor, who has the exercise of the prerogative in this particular, gives the necessary directions of the care of the one and of the other; nothing of this kind is provided for by the Charter. In the present case a deposit is made to answer the plaintiff's demands, and that the plaintiff may have an opportunity to prosecute his suit, sufficient proof upon oath should be laid before the Court of the state of mind in which Mrs. Aratoon is, and an application should be made to have a guardian assigned to defend the cause for her, and if upon reading this evidence and upon a motion, for the purpose of which the plaintiff must have notice and be heard, if he thinks fit it should appear to the Court that Mrs. Aratoon is a lunatic or otherwise incapable of managing herself or her affairs, the Court should appoint a guardian to defend the suit for her, and if no such application should be made on behalf of the defendant, the plaintiff in the cause may upon proper affidavits of the defendant's state of mind apply to the Court that a guardian may be appointed for the defendant, and the Court may appoint one accordingly, and may afterwards proceed in the cause as in other cases, and though a like case with the present may not perhaps

offer again, yet if it should, we are of opinion a common appearance only should be entered for such a defendant as it seems to be a great hardship that a person under such circumstances should be obliged to give bail.

125. We are very glad the institution of a Court of Bequest is so agreeable and useful as Mr. Kelsall in his letter to us represents it to be, but we cannot extend their cognizance to larger sums than what are given them by the Charter. Since however useful it might be, there is no probability that His Majesty would upon any applications enlarge the sums, as all the Acts of Parliament of which there are several for the erecting of like courts in different parts of the kingdom have not in any of them invested such courts with a power of hearing and determining in suits exceeding the value of 40 shillings. The Jemindar must conform to the rules and orders we have established for the Government, and then we are not apprehensive any inconvenience can arise from the exercise of his office.

126. By what we have already said we have answered the greatest part of the letter from the Mayor's Court; we shall therefore take no further notice of it than of such parts only as have not yet been mentioned.

127. The Mayor's Court say that they cannot find any provision made in cases where the bail dies, the defendant being dead or withdrawn before satisfaction made to a final decree, and that it is a point in question whether the estate of such bail is liable to make satisfaction.

128. A person who becomes bail for another enters into a recognizance whereby he undertakes in a certain sum that if the defendant shall be condemned in the suit he will surrender his person or make satisfaction for him.

129. By this obligation the bail and his representative and estate are bound to the performance of the condition of it and the recognizance is a charge upon his estate perfectly to Bond Debts.

130. If the principal withdraws and the bail is dead, the heirs, executors or administrators of the bail must proceed against in the manner mentioned in the book of instructions sent over with the former Charter under the title or marginal note "Manner of Proceedings against Bail" the precept against the representation of the bail must be in the form set forth in that book, with this addition that after the recital that the defendant had not surrendered himself to be charged in execution, there should be a further recital to this effect, *viz.*—

"And whereas it is alleged that the said A B (the Bail) is dead, and that you are his executor or administratior as the case is; these are therefore, &c."

131. This precept must be served and returned in the manner directed by the instructions, and besides the defences mentioned therein such executors or administrators may plead—

(*1st*) that they are not executors or administrator; or

(*2nd*) that they have not assets or effects of the person to satisfy the recognizance.

132. In case of either of these pleas, the plaintiff may take issue and the matter of fact must be tried, and if such plea is found to be false judgment must go for the plaintiff, and execution not exceeding the sum mentioned in the recognizance must issue against the representatives of the bail, who will be answerable to the amount of the assets which shall be found to be in his hands or to have been wasted or misapplied by him, but the representatives of such bail are by no means to be charged with or liable for more than the amount of the effects of the person they represent, and which have actually come to their hands.

133. We avoided entering into the case of Sudasiebdass and Gapat Burdar; the proceedings transmitted are not complete, and we therefore recommend it to you to settle the matter between the Mayor's Court and the Jemindar, and that you will as far as possible frame such rules to be observed by them respectively as may for the future avoid a clashing between their several jurisdictions.

134. The Mayor's Court say that they are at a loss how to understand that part of our instructions directing the Accountant-General to draw upon our President and Council for such deposits as the Mayor's Court shall order to be

paid or delivered over to the suitors as the form of the drafts contains a proviso for making the same void if not complied with in a month after the date, and from thence form a question how the suitor is to recover his money or effects if by any accident such draft should not be complied with within the limited time.

135. This provision is agreeable to the rules observed by the Accountant-General of the Court of Chancery, which by the Charter we are directed to conform to, and the reason to prevent such drafts being negotiated as money and the better to enable the Accountant-General to keep and balance his accounts, as many inconveniences would arise if a time was not limited for the bringing in of such drafts. If the draft is not complied with in due time, the person to whom such draft is made payable must deliver it up to the Accountant-General, who must thereupon cancel it and give a fresh one, but if a draft should be lost, in that case application must be made to the Mayor's Court, and the party to whom such draft was made must by proper proof upon oath show how and by what means such draft happen to be lost, and upon making out their case to the satisfaction of the Court, the Court by a new order must direct the Accountant-General to make another draft in the place of this which may so happen to have been lost.

136. The Mayor's Court complain of that part of the Charter which takes from them the cognizance of disputes between the natives.

137. This insertion was occasioned by a representation which in the year 1735 was made to our President and Council at Fort St. George by petitions in the names of the whole body of inhabitants of Madras, Bhramins, Guzzerats, right and certain Gentoos and Moors, setting forth that they had laws and customs of their own differing from those of England, and praying that they might be at liberty to determine the differences arising among themselves by arbitrators of their own choosing, to which we at that time agreed, and in consequence thereof got this clause to be made a part of the present Charter, and under the words Indian natives we meant it to include the several persons and sects in whose names the beforementioned petition had been presented, and we are of opinion that the Mayor's Court notwithstanding this clause may hold plea in suits between any persons who do not fall within this description.

138. We shall not willingly apply to His Majesty for any alterations in the present Charter, unless in such instances as are essential or very material, as all applications of this kind are very difficult and attended with great expense and trouble.

139. It is probable your letter in answer to this may furnish us with further observations upon the Charter, and as we may be at a loss for the reasons that may be offered in support of such alterations as may be proposed, we desire for the satisfaction of His Majesty's Ministers and for our own, that in all cases where any alterations may be thought necessary in the present Charter, you take the same into your consideration in consultation with other persons, and particularly with some of the principal persons that be affected by such alterations, and that you enter the reason that may be offered for or against the alteration in your consultations; and that in all cases you send us the precise form of the clause or paragraph in the words you would have it stand in any further grant which may be made by His Majesty in consequence of our application to him for the purpose.

140. In 26th paragraph of our letter of the 24th January 1753, we directed the Mayor's Court and Court of Requests to point out to us such alterations in the Charter as they should think necessary. But as we find that method to be inconvenient, we desire you will signify to the Mayor's Court and Court of Requests and to all others that for the future their applications for any purpose whatsoever be not made to us in the first instance, but that they make the same to you our President and Council to the end that you may examine them, and then transmit them to us with your opinions, reasons and observations upon them.

141. We have not received in any of the ships of the season an account of Wills registered in the Mayor's Court which has proved a great disappointment to many persons who have applied for a sight of them. It must theefore be

your business to call upon the Mayor's Court every season for all the books, papers and accounts necessary to be transmitted to us. The Register Wills in particular all which are to be made part of your packets, as we shall always expect them to pass through your hands.

SUPPLEMENT.

142. Since what we have mentioned under the 3rd head, with regard to Mr. Wogan, we are not surprised at the large fortune he has acquired in so short a time, having been informed that he supplied the Dutch with their Dacca goods, on which he has got at least fifteen per cent.; this practice of furnishing our rivals with goods, we have great reason to believe has been for sometime past, and is at present carried on by our servants greatly to our prejudice, by furnishing the Dutch with those very goods we ordered and were provided with our Dadney* and Puttun† and particularly the best in quality, which we are confirmed in from the general opinion of the Dutch gentlemen who come over to sales, who all say that their Dacca goods are greatly superior to ours; this accounts for the cause of our just and repeated complaints of the badness of those goods and which we can never expect to be remedied so long as these practices are continued; we therefore positively command you to make a strict enquiry into this affair in particular and send us an account of your proceedings therein, by which we shall be able to judge whether you have proceeded in earnest and who (if any) have been guilty of this infamous practice. We are further informed that these very goods are sent down under the protection of the Company's Dusticks,‡ which could not be done without your knowledge if you did your duty, nor will we suffer our rivals to run away with the benefit of our dear bought privileges. We therefore expect and require of you to take effectual care that the Dusticks are not made use off to cover from the country duties any but the Company's or their immediate servants' goods, and that you do strictly examine and compare the goods with the Dusticks, to see that they are delivered at Calcutta agreeable thereto, and that they are not afterwards carried to the settlements of any other Europeans whatsoever.

143. Since writing the beforegoing, we have taken up another ship upon the usual terms, *viz.*, the *Pelham*, Captain George Lindsay, Commander, burthen 499 tons, and shall station her sometime hence, according as circumstance may make it necessary.

144. Captain Samson of the *Hardwicke* upon his departure from the Downes advised us he had taken on board a young lady as a passenger from Madeira, whose name we have since been informed is Campbell. As he has not our leave for that purpose, and as we are apprehensive he intended to carry her to India, if therefore she shall be landed at Bengal or at any of our settlements under your Presidency, you are hereby positively ordered to take effectual care that she is sent back to England at the expense of the owners of the *Hardwicke* upon the first ship you shall despatch.

145. We are very desirous that a provision should be made for the relief of the widows of such of our military officers who are left in indigent circumstances, as likewise for sick and wounded and disabled officers, and private men upon the Bengal Establishment. We therefore most earnestly recommend it to you to consider of ways and means for settling a fund for those good purposes. We will not point out to you what each officer and private man shall contribute thereto of his pay according to his rank; and judging that you in concert with our principal and other officers may be better able to settle the same to the general satisfaction of the whole body; among other good effects of such a fund, it will prevent your sending over to us many unhappy objects whom we know not how to relieve as having no fund out of which to support them, and you are

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* Dadani, or abreviated Dadni. H. Paying in advance, advancing pay to labourers or manufacturers: any additional grant or allowance. [Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.]

† Puttun correctly Pattun. H. Act for ordering goods from a Manufacturer. [*Ibid.*]

‡ Dastak. Dustuk, corruptly Dustuck. H. (—— from P. dast the hand, the signature). A passport, a permit. In the early days of the British Government a document authorizing the free transit of certain goods, and their exemption from Customs dues in favour of English traders. In later times it applies more generally to a summons, a writ, a warrant, especially to a process served on a revenue-defaulter to compel him to pay any balances that may be due. [*Ibid.*]

hereby directed to send us a very particular account of your proceedings in consequence of this recommendation.

146. We have chosen the following persons to serve us in a military capacity at our Presidency of Fort William, *viz.*, Thomas Blagg, who is to succeed to the first vacant lieutenancy that shall happen after his arrival, and after those gentlemen who went out in the same rank the preceding years have been provided for, also Richard Geers, Henry Spelman, and William Hastings, who are to succeed in the like manner to the first vacancies as Ensigns. Lieutenant Blagg and Ensign Spelman take their passage on the *Duke of Dorset*; Ensign Geers and Hastings on the *Eastcourt*; their pay is to commence on their arrival at Fort William, *viz.*, Mr. Blagg as a Lieutenant and the other three as Ensigns, although they may not immediately succeed to the stations intended to them as beforementioned.

147. Notwithstanding your giving commissions to the said several persons upon their succeeding to any vacancy, yet the giving of such commissions are not to determine their rank, which it is our pleasure shall be exactly in those we have named them in the preceding paragraph.

148. As the said persons are to receive pay as before mentioned, they shall happen no immediate use you must take care that they are usefully employed till you have an opportunity of giving them commissions.

149. You will receive by these ships, the *Eastcourt* and the *Duke of Dorset*, about two hundred recruits, unless they happen to be detained at Fort St. George agreeable to what we have mentioned in the preceding part of this letter. In case the beforementioned officers shall likewise be detained at Fort St. George, they are notwithstanding to preserve their rank at your Presidency, according to the directions we have given in the 115th paragraph.

150. Having reason to be dissatisfied with the conduct of Mr. Edward Holden Cruttenden, we hereby direct that upon the receipt of this he be immediately dismissed from the Company's service.

We are,
Your Loving Friends,

R. DRAKE.

RICHARD CHAUNEY.

W. MABBOTT.

N. L. IMPEY.

JOHN PAYNE.

WHICHCOTT TURNER.

T. RAYMOND.

THOS. PHIPPS.

NICHOLAS LIEMROD.

W. WILLY.

M. HRABB BOULHN.

L. P. FOMRERU.

CHAR. GOUGH.

CHAR. CUTTS.

W. WILBERFORCE, *Jr.*

LONDON,
The 31st January 1755.

Exd.—W. G. B.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 107 F. D.—25-2-92—500.

To Richard Bourchier Esq^r or the Governour of Bombay for the time being, John Sewell Esq^r or the Second in Council at Bombay for the time being, Sir James Foulis Bar^t Mr. Brabazon Ellis and Captain Samuel Hough.

* * * * * * * *

16. The Court of Directors having appointed Mr. Clive, one of the Council at Fort S^t George in rank next below Mr. Pigot, and as We have reason to believe Mr. Saunders has resigned the Government, in which case Mr. Pigot is Governour of Fort S^t George, and Mr. Clive, Second and Deputy Governour of Fort S^t David, you are to show him the same respect, and order the same Honours to be paid to him as are usually paid to the Second of Bombay, and during the Progress of the Expedition, he is not to be otherwise employed, than of his own free Choice, except the Command of the Expedition devolve upon him and unless it be to give his Advice, whenever called upon by the Commander-in-Chief, or that he may think proper to give it, though not called upon, he is therefore, during the whole Course of the Expedition, to be regarded in a manner suitable to his rank as Deputy Governour of Fort S^t David accompanying the Expedition, as Second of the Council belonging to it, and as a Lieutenant Colonel appointed to take the Command upon him, in case of accident or necessity as abovementioned, and on his arrival on the other Coast, if not in the Chief Command, he will be at liberty to quit the Army to repair to his Government. If he should happen to go by Vizagapatam, or any other Subordinate Factory on that Coast, he must be respected in his said Rank.

* * * * * * *

We are

East India House London.

Your loving Friends

the 26^th March 1755.

R. DRAKE

RICH^D CHANNEY

W. MABBOLD

J. RAYMOND

Supplement.

* * * * * * * *

Having in the preceeding Instructions mentioned that Mr. Clive is provided with his Majesty's Commission of Lieut. Col^l, We are now to acquaint you that not being able to procure the said Commission in time to be sent with Mr. Clive, you are therefore to furnish him with a Commission as Lieutenant Colonel in the Company's Service immediately upon his arrival, in order to give him the Rank necessary for the Expedition.

27^th March 1755.

W. MABBOLD R. DRAKE

J. RAYMOND RICH^D CHANNEY

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 823 F. D.—20-7-92—500.

Our President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We write you a short letter by the *Delawar*, dated the 10th of October, to be forwarded to you, either by that ship, or by the first conveyance that offered from Fort St. George. She left Spithead in company with the *Griffin* on the last day of that month, having been retarded so long by several unavoidable incidents. A duplicate of our said letter comes herewith.

2. We forward this letter by the *Marlborough*, to inform you that we have desired our correspondents at the Island of Madeira to load on her the annual supply of wines for our settlements, one hundred and fifty pipes whereof are to be consigned to Fort St. George, and the like quantity to you; but we have, as usual, indulged the President and Council at Fort St. George to detain part of the wine consigned to you, not exceeding fifty pipes, provided they are really in want of it, and not otherwise. Upon arrival of the wine in Bengal you must continue your method of having it carefully surveyed as well on board as ashore, that we may judge whether we suffer either by our correspondents at Madeira, or by any embezzlements or carelessness in the people of the ship, that we may take the necessary measures for obtaining satisfaction accordingly.

3. Should the Commander and ship's Company of the *Marlborough* exceed the twenty pipes we have indulged them to carry, the surplus must be deemed illicit trade, and proceeded against agreeable to our repeated directions.

4. We have taken such notice of your complaint of the quality of the wine you received by the *St. George*, as likewise of a complaint made by the President and Council of Fort St. George as to the deficiency in the size of the casks of what they received by the same ships as we believe will leave no reason for complaints of this kind again.

5. The *Marlborough* having nothing more than the before mentioned one hundred and fifty pipes of wine consigned to you, it is left to the President and Council of Fort St. George, either to send the said ship immediately to you, with the wine, and any other consignments they may have in readiness, or forward them by any other safe conveyances; whether it will be best to return her to us, from one or the other Presidency, you, in concert with our servants at Fort St. George, must determine according to circumstances; but we have earnestly reminded them that the earliest and safest opportunities must be embraced to forward to Bengal all the treasure they can possibly spare, in bullion or rupees, according to the notice you may have given them.

6. In our letter by the *Delawar*, we gave you a general view of the situation of affairs between the British and French nations. We have only to add thereto that hostilities are carried on with vigour in America; that our men-of-war in Europe take all the French ships they meet with, of which great numbers now lay in the several ports of His Majesty's dominions, but none are yet condemned. No declaration of war is made by either nation; no commissions for privateers or letters of marque have been issued or granted here, and far from any being issued by the French Court, all British merchant ships are suffered to go in and out of their ports without molestation; however, the French continue to exert themselves in increasing, with the utmost diligence, both the land and the sea armaments, and have drawn down a great number of their forces to their coasts, and it is generally believed they are meditating some grand effort; on the other hand, the most vigourous measures are taken in England to be prepared against all attempts, and it is with great pleasure the whole nation sees the Parliament most heartily concurs therein with His Majesty; this being the present situation, you must carefully observe the directions we gave in our beforementioned letter by the *Delawar*, to stand

well upon your guard, that you may baffle any attempts which may be made by the French upon our estates, rights and privileges.

We are,

Your Loving Friends,

R. DRAKE.
P. GODFREY.
JOHN PAYNE.
NATH. NEWNHAM, *Jr.*
CHARLES CHAMBERS.
THOS. PHIPPS.
THOS. ROUS.
M. HRABB. BOULHN.
HENRY PLANT.
ROBERT JONES.
HENRY SAVAGE.
TIMOTHY TULLIE.
JOHN MANSHIP.
CHARLES GOUGH.
JOHN DORRIEN.
LAU. SULIVAN.
MAXIM. C. WESTERN.
CHRISTO. BARROW.

LONDON,
The 3rd December 1755.

Exd.—P. K. B.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 108 F. D.—4-8-91. 500.

ADMIRALTY RECORDS LOG BOOKS

"KENT" 1755—1757, VOL 4778.

[*Extracts*]

Week Days	Mth & year	Winds	Course	Dis^{t}.	Lat^{d} in	Long^{d} made	Bearing & Distance at Noon	Remarks &c^{a}.
Sunday . .	Decem^{r} 5th 1756 .	N. E. C N &c. .	...	...	...	...	At single Anchor in Ballasore Road.	Fresh gales and cloudy wea^{r}—At 4 P.M weigh^{d} & came to sail—At 6 tack^{d} ship—At 8 made the signal and anchor'd with the best bower in 9½ F & veer'd to a cable—At 6 A M saw a sail in the N. W. Q^{r} which prov'd to be the *Tyger* and 7 pylot sloops and a strange sail at an anchor. Got down the topmast studding sail booms, the *Tyger* in C^{o}, the strange sail before mentioned proves to be a Frenchman.
Tuesday . .	[December] 14th.	W. S. W &c. .	...	...	...	...	Towing up the River .	Light airs and calms— At 3 P.M saluted the Governour of Calcutta with 17 guns at his leaving the ship (after visiting the Admiral)—received on board sundry dry provisions, and served fresh beef to the ship's comp^{y}—Hove short—at Noon weigh'd and came to sail; the boats ahead towing the ship.
Wednesd^{y} .	15th . . .	S C W &c. .	...	...	...	...	Moor'd off Fulta in the River Hughley.	Little wind and hazey wea^{r} with some rain—At ¾ past 3 P.M pass'd by the mouth of the Ganges—At 5 P.M his Majesty's sloop *Kingsfisher* saluted the Admiral with 17 guns, as did also the rest of the ships in the road return'd to the whole 17 At 6 anchor'd in Fulta road with the best bower in 6½ F and moor'd with the coasting anchor, a cable each way, found riding here his Majesty's sloop *Kingsfisher*, *Protector* Comp^{ys} cruiser. *Delawar* & *Walpole* indiamen and several country ships. the *Tyger* in sight Disembark'd all the Lascars.

ADMIRALTY RECORDS LOG BOOKS—*continued.*

Week Days	Mth & year	Winds	Course	Dis^{t}.	Lat^{d} in	Long made	Bearings and Distance at Noon	Remarks &c^{a}.
Wednesday	Decem^{r} 29th 1756	N^{o} &c.	...	...	...	...	At anchor off Miapore	Moderate and hazey wea^{r}—½ past 2 P.M made the signal and weigh^{d} in company with his Majesty's ships *Tyger*, *Salisb^{y} Bridgw^{r}* & *Kingsfisher* sloop—½ past 7 anchor'd off Myapore, & veer'd to ⅓ of a cable. At sunrise two Dutch ships saluted with 15 guns each, ret^{d} to both 13—½ past 7 weigh'd and came to sail in C^{o} as before. At ½ past 8 came too with the best bower, & veer'd to ⅓ of a cable. Made the *Salisb$^{y's}$ Bridgwater's* and *Kingsfisher's* signals for a Lieut: from each
Thursday	30th	North &c.	...	...	...	...	At anchor off Bouzea Bougie	Little wind & fair wea^{r}—at 2 P.M landed all the Company's troops at Myapore, as did the rest of the squadron: ½ past 3 P.M weigh'd and came to sail, At 6 anchor'd off Pengals Point. At 7 A.M. weigh'd & came to sail for Bouziea Bougie in the foll^{g} order (viz^{t}), His Majesty's ship *Tyger*, *Kent*, *Salisb^{y} Bridgew^{t}* and *Kingsfisher* sloop, ½ past 7 the enemy fired at the *Tyger*, 18 min^{s} past she ret^{d} it, at 35 min^{s} past we began to fire. At 3 min^{s} past 8 anchor'd, & made the signal to engage. At 35 min^{s} past landed all the Kings troops to join Co^{l} Clive who appear^{d} on the banks of the River. At 9 the enemy fired but few shot. At 25 min^{s} past the King's troops took possession of an abandon'd battery that the enemy had withdrawn their cannon from, ½ past 9 the *Salisb^{y}* & *Bridgw^{r}* began to fire. 18 min^{s} past. sent all the boats to land the artillery and stores

Saturday	January 1st 1757	N. W &c.	...	...	...	...	At single anchor in Tanners Reach	Little wind and fair wea^{r}. PM made the *Tyger's* & *Salisbury's* signals for Lieuts. At 6 embark'd all the troops. At 8 weigh'd as did the squadron, and dropt farther up the River. ½ past 10 anchor'd again. At 1 AM sent all the boats mann'd & arm'd up the River. At 5 they return'd again. At 7 departed this life M^{r} Nathaniel Prentice, 2^{d} Lieutenant, ½ past weigh'd and came to sail. At 10 anchor'd again. A French ship saluted with 9 guns ret^{d}. 5 made the *Tyger's* sig^{l} for her Captain.
Sunday	[January] 2^{d}	[N W] &c.	...	...	...	...	Abreast of Fort William	Little wind and fair wea^{r}. At ½ past Noon weigh'd and came to sail, the *Tyger* in C^{o}. At 3 the *Tyger's* seamen took possession of Tanner's Fort, which the enemy had abandon'd and our seamen took possession of the batterys on the opposite side of the River. and hoisted English colours. Set fire to them both. At 4 anchor'd again. At 6 the boats belonging to both ships went up the River, mann'd & arm'd to destroy a ship and some vessells. At 9 they were all on fire. Departed this life W^{m} Jennins, soldier. ½ past 6 A.M. landed the Company's troops. At 8 weigh'd and came to sail in C^{o}. the *Tyger* made the *Salisbury's* signal for a Lieut. At 40 min^{s} past 9 the enemy began to fire at the *Tyger* from Fort William. At 42 min^{s} past she return'd it. At 48 min^{s} past they fired at us. At 25 min^{s} past 10 we began to fire. At 28 min^{s} past made the signal to engage. and began the attack. At 30 min^{s} past anchor'd. At 46 min^{s} past sent a boat with an officer on shore. At 55 min^{s} past sent Capt^{t} Coot on shore with the King's troops to take possession of the Fort. At 11 English colours were hoisted. sent the boats up the River mann'd & arm'd.

ADMIRALTY RECORDS LOG BOOKS—*continued.*

Week Days.	Mth & year	Winds	Course	Dis^{t}.	Lat^{d} in	Long^{d} made	Bearings and Distance at Noon	Remarks &c^{a}.
Monday . .	3^{d} . . .	[N. W.] &c. .	...	...	..	...	Moor'd . . .	Ditto wea^{r}. P.M veer'd away and moor'd with the sheet anchor, a cable each way. A.M the Admiral went on shore. Mann'd ship and the Fort at his landing, saluted with 17 guns. Read the articles of War to the ship's company.
Tuesday . .	11th . . .	N^{o} &c. . .	...	...	...	...	Moor'd abreast of Fort William.	Ditto wea^{r}. P.M employ'd filling water in the after hold. At 11 A.M the barge came on board with an account of Hughley being taken. In the attack was kill^{d} M^{r} W^{m} Hamilton Mid^{s} and several wounded.
Saturday	March 19th, 1757	S. W Qua^{r} .	...	...	...	...	At single anchor in Chandernagore Reach.	Light airs and fair wea^{r} —½ past 1 P.M anchor'd, but being too near the *Tyger*—at 2 weigh'd and at 3 came too again with the best bower in ¼ 3 F and carried out a hawser to cast the ship, ½ past ships it and at 4 came too with the coast^{g} anchor in 5 F, Chandernagore's flaggestaff bearing N ½ W^{t} dis^{t} 2 miles, Found riding her his Majesty's ship *Bridgwater* and *Kingsfisher* sloop. At 8 sent the boats mann'd and arm'd up the River. at 11 they return'd, during the night the enemy hove a number of shells into the Town, and our troops a number in return into the Fort. At 9 A.M, made the *Bridgwater's* and *Kingsfisher's* signals for officers, ½ past Lieut Hey went with a flagg of truce to the fort, Carried out a hawser to steady the ship.
Sunday . .	[March] 20th .	[S. W] .	...	...	...	...	At Single anchor in Chandernagore Reach.	Light airs and fair wea^{r}—at 2 P.M. an officer with a flagg of truce came on b^{d} from Chandernagore, ½

								past 3, he went away, ditto the ***Salisbury*** anchor'd here, both our troops and the enemy, hove several shells in the night. At 7 A.M. made the signal for all Lieuts. & for the Pylot. cast the hawser off from the shore and haul'd it in.
Monday	21st	S S W &c.	...	...	...	...	"	The first and latter parts moderate and hazey, the middle light airs & foggy. At 7 PM carried out a hawser to steady the ship. At 9 sent the Carprs on shore to fix a platform for the guns on a battery erected by Colonel Clive. At 11 A.M. haul'd the hawser on board and hove short.
Tuesday	22d	S S W &c.	...	...	...	...	"	Moderate and fair wear. At Noon made the *Tygers* signal for her Captain. Veer'd away and carried out a hawser to steady the ship—at 3 P.M. Adml Pocock arrv'd here in his barge and hoisted his flagg on board ye *Tyger*.
Wednesday	23d	Variable	...	...	...	...	Abreast of Chandernagore.	Moderate breezes and hazey wear. At 8 P.M embark'd the King's troops and sent the boats mann'd and arm'd up the River to prevent any supply going to the Fort, during the night bombarding on both sides. At 6 A.M. made the signal to weigh. ditto hove short. soon after the *Tyger* got under sail. Weigh'd & slipt the shore fast, which we had for a spring to cast the ship, 5 mins past our conceal'd battery was open'd and began the attack. At 10 mins past the enemy first fired at the *Tyger*, ¼ past loos'd our topgallt sails, 19 mins past the *Tyger* began to fire with her bow chase, 25 mins past being then over the wrecks (the enemy had sunk to prevent our passage) she began to engage with her larboard broadside At 26 mins past the enemy began to fire at us, 38 mins past the enemy deserted the mudd battery off the water side, 45 mins past

ADMIRALTY LOG BOOKS—*concluded.*

Week Days	Mth & year	Winds	Course	Dis^{t}.	Lat^{d} in	Long^{d} made	Bearings and Distance at Noon	Remarks &c^{a}.
								made the signal to engage. At 7 anchor'd abreast the S. E. Bastion began the attack, ¼ past 9 the enemy hung out a flagg of truce to capitulate, ditto haul'd down the signal for engaging and ceased firing. Employ'd getting the ship into a more advantageous berth for engaging. In this action L. Perreau &. 18 men were kill'd. Cap^{t} Speke Lieut Hay and 46 men more wounded.
Thursd^{y}	March 24th 1757	...	...	...	...	...	Moor'd abreast of Chandernagore.	Fresh breezes and hazey wet wea^{r}. P. M the French Governour came on board. Disembark'd the King's troops, ¼ past 4 English colours were hoisted in the fort. made the *Bridgw^{r}* and *Kingsfisher's* signal for their Captains, and the *Tygers* for a Lieutenant. Carried a hawser on shore to steady the ship, ½ past 5 the fort fired 21 guns as a salute to His Majesty's colours am. struck yards and topmasts and moor'd ship a cable each way the flaggestaff bearing N. N. W. At 10 the fort saluted the Admiral with 19 guns, fired 18 minute guns at the funeral of M^{r} Samuel Perreau 1st Lieutenant.

Our President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We write to you this season by the ships *Delawar* and *Marlborough*. The letter by the first-named ship was dated the 10th of October, and that by the other, the 3rd of December, duplicates and triplicates whereof are now sent on the coast and China ships to Fort St. George to be forwarded to you together with this letter.

2. The *Delawar* and *Griffin* sailed from Spithead on the 31st of October under a convoy, which left them in safety, and making the best of their way on their voyages the 14th of November in the latitude of 41°O N.

3. The *Harcourt* directly for China, the *Marlborough* for the Island of Madeira and the coast and Bay, and the *Oxford* for St. Helena and the West Coast, were dispatched on the 6th day of December. For the time of their final departure from England, we refer to the general lists of the arrival and departure of our shipping which we shall cause to be sent you.

4. The ships *Stormont*, *Godolphin*, *Caernarvon*, and *Suffolk* for the coast of Choromandel and China are now under dispatch, in which we have consigned to the President and Council at Fort St. George treasure to a considerable amount, as we likewise did by the *Delawar* and *Marlborough;* as large a proportion whereof as they can possibly spare, being to be forwarded to you by the first safe conveyances, and we hope will get to Bengal early enough to do us good service.

5. The treasure intended to be laden on the two coast and bay ships, the *Chesterfield* and *Walpole*, will be consigned in the usual manner to you, but at the same time we must give leave to the President and Council at Fort St. George to detain such part thereof as shall appear really necessary for the Company's service at that Presidency, but no more on any pretence whatsoever.

6. We propose likewise to make such consignments of treasure and goods to Bombay as will enable the President and Council to assist you with large remittances in treasure or by bills.

7. As we conclude the *Britannia* and *Kent* will be loaded here from China, and the *Anson* and *London* will in all probability, according to the accounts we have lately received, be returned to us with full loadings of pepper from the Malabar Coast. Neither you or our servants at Fort St. George will have more ships on your hands than will be necessary to bring home your respective investments, consequently the four ships intended this season for the coast and bay will be but barely sufficient for the goods, which in all probability will be ready for them. Under this circumstance, we must leave it to your discretion and that of our Presidency at Fort St. George, to proportion the loading of each ship, as well in point of value as tonnage, by giving such a surplus as shall be thought proper, and observing that, if there is not tonnage sufficient for your whole investment, such a part of the coursest sort of it must be reserved the following season, as will make room for the more valuable assortments.

8. When we informed you in our letter of the 10th of October that we should expect to receive from our several settlements in the year 1756 at least two thousand tons of saltpetre, and gave you directions to guide yourselves accordingly in your purchase of that article, we have reason to believe you would have had a ship or ships of a former season remaining on your hands, which, from what we have mentioned in the preceding paragraph, we now apprehend will not be the case; however, as we are desirous to receive as large a quantity of saltpetre in 1756 as possible, even to the amount of the said two thousand tons, we mean from all our settlements, if there shall happen to be tonnage for it, and if it can be brought home without interfering too much with the more valuable parts of your and their investments, you must therefore make such a provision of that article, both for the ships to be dispatched by you and our other Presidencies as will be sufficient for the several ships to be loaded Home, giving every ship such a proportion over and above the charter party tonnage as she can conveniently carry on the Commander's requesting for it at the low freight.

9. Concluding that no ship can be spared to be sent either from Fort St. George or Bengal to the West Coast of Sumatra to take in any pepper there the ensuing year, we have ordered our servants at Fort Marlborough to give the *Oxford* as full a loading of pepper as she can take in, and to acquaint the President and Council at Fort St. George with what they shall have remaining

or may further expect, whose directions they are to follow as to the disposition of it, and from whom you will receive the necessary advices relative to such surplus pepper, if your assistance shall be thought necessary.

10. The few ships you will have to provide for and the forwardness which we have reason to believe your investments will be in, must probably give you the best opportunity you ever had of giving them early dispatches, and therein of showing your diligence and regard to our repeated recommendations on this head.

11. If there shall be a considerable quantity of goods provided by you and the President and Council at Fort St. George more than sufficient for full loadings for the ships on your respective hands, and if our own ship the *Dragon* shall happen to be at either Presidency, or can arrive from Bombay in a proper season to be sent to England, we would have her loaded either from Fort St. George or Bengal or both Presidencies with such surplus investments, and consigned therewith to us accordingly, taking care that she is properly manned and fitted for the voyage.

12. The ships *Hardwicke* and *Didington* were freighted by us for voyages to India, as you have been already informed. They are not the property of particular persons, who have leave to employ or dispose of them there. If you and our Presidency of Fort St. George shall have very pressing occasion for further tonnage, and either of those ships can be procured and properly fitted and manned for Europe in a seasonable time, we do empower either Presidency to agree with the owners upon the best terms you can to take up either ship on freight for a voyage to England, with such a cargo as shall be thought proper to be consigned to us on her; and in case of such an event all necessary care must be taken to settle the agreement as nearly conformable to the usual terms of the Charter party of our freighted ships as circumstances will admit of. You are to look upon these directions as an expedient only in case it shall be absolutely necessary to send home another ship, and not otherwise to be made use of.

13. It was our intentions to have forwarded a list of investments by the ship now under dispatch, and for our better government therein had fixed our sale for the Bengal and coast piece-goods for the 2nd instant, which was a few days after we received the news of the fatal calamity which befell the City of Lisbon, which by an earthquake that happened on the 1st of November and a conflagration which ensued hath almost reduced the whole of it to a heap of ruins, to the immense loss of the mercantile part of Europe, and of England in particular, though Holland and Hamburgh are also very greatly involved therein.

14. This melancholy event caused so great and immediate a stagnation in business, and so much affected public credit in the negotiations of exchange with most parts of Europe, that we found ourselves under a necessity, on the pressing instances of many of our principal buyers, to postpone the sale, and whether it will be possible for us to have it ended by the time our latter ships for coast and bay sail is yet uncertain.

15. It is however necessary that you should be informed that our investment will, in general, be pretty much on the foot of our last, except in the article of Gurrahs, in which it must be greatly lessened and restrained, as no ship will probably be left on your hands, and that the whole of your tonnage will be barely sufficient for the fine goods we shall expect from your Presidency.

16. It is with pleasure we can observe an amendment in the quality as well as a reduction in the price of several articles of your investment. The goods in general purchased by the Gomastah at the Aurrungs are in both respects preferable to those purchased by the merchants, some very few articles excepted. The Orrua Cossacs per *Colchester* are much preferable to those per *Winchelsea* and *Egmont* purchased of the merchants. The Cossacs Cogmaria, both those (distinguished C. Cos. and F. C. Cos.) purchased at Harrial Aurung are very tolerable, as are the several sorts of Commercolly Cossacs (Cos. C. and F. C.), and the new sort of Cossacs Chandpore, all purchased at the Jugdea Factory; the latter in particular, and the common Cos. C. are much better than those per *Winchelsea* and *Egmont*, purchased of the merchants. The Cossacs Burron are not so good in their kind. The Cossajura Mulmulls and Dooreas are very tolerable; the quality of the Coincola Terrin-

danas is much amended, as is that of the Mulmulls Ballasore purchased at Haripaul Aurung, but does not yet come up to that of former years.

17. We must do our servants at Jugdea the justice to commend them, in having brought about an amendment in the quantity of their Baftaes. The Baftaes Chutty (and B. F. Chut) per *Winchelsea* and *Egmont* are good, and hope they will increase the quantity of them as well as those per *Egmont*, distinguished and B. F. M., which are of a very good kind; of the narrow sort there were too many. The Humhums purchased at Luckipore Factory are very good and cheap, and some of those at that of Abidpore; those bought at Harrial are much inferior. As well as you can increase those, of which we received two bales per *Colchester* invoiced among the Dacca goods, and distinguished thus, H. Mch. and called Humhums Chardore.

18. Though some few sorts of the Dacca goods (particularly Dooreas) are amended in quality, we still have great reason to complain of many others, as some of the Terrindams and most of the Nainsooks and Seerhandconnaes, which cost very high prices, are very ordinary; those of the two last kinds per *Egmont* and *Colchester* from Jugdea Factory will not answer.

19. The work of some of the Dacca Dooreas, especially per *Egmont*, is very good, but the sprigs are at much too great a distance, and they come so very dear, that we have reason to think they will not all sell at an advance; and we can but observe to you, that if our servants at Dacca do not exert themselves in a very extraordinary manner to keep up the quality and reduce the prices of their several fabricks, we shall be obliged to withdraw that Factory and put the investment there more on the foot on which it is carried on at present with you.

20. These general though short remarks on the goods received this year's shipping will enable you to judge where and in what manner you are to extend or restrain the several articles of your investment, though we cannot at present give you a complete list thereto.

SUPPLEMENT.

21. In case it happens that either of the ships *Hardwicke* or *Dodington* shall in consequence of what is intimated in the 12th paragraph be freighted for England, you must, in making the agreement with the owners, consider that it is only for a voyage to England, and that therefore the freights mentioned in the Charter party of our other ships must not be the rule to go by, because those freights in full consideration for the outward as well as homeward bound cargos.

We are,
Your Loving Friends,
R. DRAKE.
P. GODFREY.
NATH. NEWNHAM, *Jr.*
JOHN PAYNE.
CHARLES CHAMBERS.
JOHN MANSHIP.
WHICHCOTT TURNER.
T. RAYMOND.
THOS. ROUS.
JAMES CREED.
LAU. SULIVAN.
M. HRABB BOULHU.
ROBERT JONES.
HENRY PLANT.
MAXIM. C. WESTERN.
HENRY SAVAGE.
TIMOTHY TULLIE.
CHARLES GOUGH.
JOHN DORRIEN.
CHRISTO. BARROW.

LONDON,
The 19th December 1755.

Exd.—W. G. B.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 109 F. D.—20-11-91.—500.

To the Hoñble the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company for the time being. dated Fort St George 1st March 1756.

* * * * * * * *

12. We found a Disposition already made for the Departure of the whole Squadron, and a Body of Troops under the Command of Colonel Clive, for this Service. Seeing no reason to alter this Disposition, our whole attention has been employed in promoting its speedy Execution, being sensible that every day's staye might cause a considerable difference in the Passage. Colonel Adlercron's Refusal to let the King's Artillery and Stores (which had been already Embarked) proceed on this Service, caused a delay of some days and there were there several other Points absolutely requisite to be adjusted before this Armament could leave the Coast on a such a footing as we thought consistent with the Company's Interest, of these the most essential was the disposal of what might be taken by his Majesty's Ships jointly with the Land Forces, or separately; First, with regard to your own Settlements and effects that might be retaken, & Secondly with regard to the Reprisals that might be made upon the Moors. After some Explanations, of which you will see the particulars in the Books of our Proceedings to be transmitted to you by the first Dispatch, it has been agreed that all your Settlements and Effects which may be retaken, shall be immediately restored to you, and that of the Reprisals which may be made upon the Moors, half shall be deposited until his Majesty's Pleasure be known, the other half to be portioned out as Prize money, but only the share of the Officers and Private Men to be to be distributed for their Encouragement, the Admirals and Captains shares to be deposited. We proposed that the whole should be deposited, but acquiesced afterwards in this opinion of the Councel of War. As the Company are to be at the sole and vast expence of the Expedition, we thought it highly reasonable to insist on their having an oppertunity of making such application as they shall judge proper to his Majesty if any Reprisals should be made:—

13. The necessary Artillery of stores intended for the Service of this Expedition are already shipped, and the Troops will begin to embark tomorrow. The Detachment consists of near Six hundred Europeans, 500 Military and 100 Train, all officers included, and 940 Seapoys. There are on board the Squadron about two hundred of Colonel Adlercron's Regiment which admiral Waston has promised to land if there should be occasion, and by the last advices from Bengall there were on board the Ships, reckoning Major Kilpatrick's Command from hence, and the Troops that escaped from the Several Factories, above four hundred Military. More Sepoys are to be sent by the *Protector* and other Conveyances;

14. We have drafted Troops from all the Garrisons to form the Detachment. After their Departure there will remain in this Garrison all Officers included:

Of Colonel Adlercron's Regiment about . . .	500
Of the Company's Troops about	300

and the Detachment of His Majesty's Train of Artillery Consisting of 60 under the Command of Captain Hislop:

15. In April two ships arrived at Pondichery from Europe, & in June one with about 60 Recruits each, and they have not had any supplies Since. By our last Accounts they have not now more than five hundred Men in Pondicherry, but we apprehend their Reinforcements from Europe will arrive either in December, or early in the Next year, and their Army at Golconda, which Since Mr: Law's Junction is said to consist of near a thousand men, is an Assistance they can always depend on either for offence or defence:

16. In such a Situation we have ventured to make this effort for the Recovery of the Company's Valuable Possessions in Bengall in hopes it may be effected before we receive the News of a Declaration of War for it is our Resolution immediately on the Receipt of such News to order back Colonel

Clive with the Troops, leaving only enough for the Defence of Calcutta, Judging the certain Possession of the Company on this coast to merit in such Circumstances our first attention:

To the Secret Committee for the Time being of the Hoñble the East India Company dated Fort St: George 20th Novr. 1756.

* * * * * * *

In our Letter of the 11th October last, of which a Duplicate accompanies this you are fully aquainted of the Preparations made for the Expediton to Bengall, and of the Terms agreed on with Admiral Watson on the subject of the Distribution of Reprisals; and by the Minutes of our Proceedings of the Dates mentioned in the Margin, you will be particularly acquinted with our Motives for every step taken:

22d Sept 30th Sept.
23 do. 1st Octr.
24 do. 4 do.
28 do. 5 do.
29 do. 9 do.

12. His Majesty's Squadron, with the Company's Ships *Walpole* and *Malborough* sailed out of the road the 16th October with the Forces mentioned in our Letter of the 11th. The Company's ship *Protector* sailed the 29th with one hundred and fifty Seapoys, and the *Lapwing,* a Private Snow frieghted for this service, sailed the same day with one hundred Seapoys.

21st October.

* * * * * * *

85. The Detention of this ship by bad Weather gives us an opportunity of acquainting you that we received the 12th Instant by the way of Bombay, the Copy of your Letter directed to the President of that place dated 18th May, advising of the Declaration of War with France. We immediately dispatched notice to all your Garrisons and sent Pattamars to Bengall, recommending to Admiral Waston and Colonel Clive to dispossess the French from Chandernagore if that Enterprize appears practicable without much loss.

86. As we learn by private advices from Bombay that an Assistance of five hundred men was intended to be sent from thence to Bengal we hope that Colonel Clive will be able to bring back with him near as large a Force as he carried away. We have directed him to return as early as possible in the Ensuing Year, and enforced our request to Admiral Watson to call here with the Squadron and give a Passage to Colonel Clive with the Troops.

13th Novr.

87. The Fortifications to the westward being so far advanced as to render that side of the Town pretty secure, and the North side being represented to us to be in a very defenceless Situation, we caused a plan to be laid before us by the Engineer of such works as he judged would best and most speedily secure that side, which we have ordered to be immediately set about; and the Engineer gives us hopes they may be finished in six Weeks, as they are to be raised with Earth in the same manner we have lately Carried on our Works to ye Westward.

13th Novr.

We are
Hoñble Gentlemen
Your faithful & most obt: humble Servants.

FORT ST GEORGE
20th Novr 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT
STRINGER LAWRANCE
HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME
WILLIAM PERCEVAL
ROBERT PALK

To the Secret Committee for the time being of the Hon^ble East India Company. dated Fort St: George 28th February 1757.

* * * * * *

By a Country ship from Bengal we have had the pleasure to receive Letters dated the 8th January from the Select Committee there and Colonel Clive, advising of the retaking of Fort William on the 2nd of that month; It was taken possession of by Admiral Watson in his Majesty's Name, and delivered over the next day to the Company's Representatives for the use of all such Persons who were Proprietors of the Effects. A large quantity of Broad Cloth with about six hundred Bales of the Investments for Europe, and most of the Artillery and stores that were left there, were found in the Place, all which have been delivered to the President and Council, conformably to the Convention made with Admiral Watson before he left the Coast.

* * * * * *

22. Since writing so far we have received further advices from Bengal, giving an account of an attack made the 6th Instant by our Troops on the Nabob's Camp, in which a vast number of his Army was killed: The killed and wounded on our side amount to sixty seven Military and one hundred Seapoys. Colonel Clive gives Room to hope that this success will produce good Terms of Accommodation.

23. He acquaints us also that an Esplanade of two hundred yards and a Glacis is made round Fort William, and a Ditch sunk of thirty feet wide and twelve feet deep. Three strong Batteries built with plank, secure the North, South and East Sides, and the River to the to the Westward, sufficiently covers that side. He concludes with giving us his opinion that Fort William cannot be taken again by the Moors:

24. A safe place of Retreat being thus prepared, we judge that nothing further can be undertaken until some accommodation is settled, and a permission obtained to enter unmolested upon a more extensive plan of Fortification for the Security of Calcutta, which we conceive to be the Intent of your Orders of the 25th May for Captain Broheir's proceeding thither:

Separate or Additional Letter ℘ *Walpole.*

To the Secret Committee, for the Time being of the Honourable East India Company.

dated Fort St: George. 30th July 1757.

* * * * * *

Colonel Adlercron directed the next Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Forde, to proceed with the Army, and came himself to Madras, where we were for many reasons very desirious of having him continue and therefore addressed a Letter on this subject to him the 20th June, who returned for answer, that he thought it necessary to be in the Field along with his Regiment and immediately set out for the Army, which he joined near to Changleput;

4. The complaince with our request could not have failed to be attended with Eminent Advantages, as the Command would in such case have devoted on Colonel Lawrance whose Abilities and Experience could not but have a good Effect, this Gentleman being however willing to promote the publick service on any Terms, offered to join the Army as a Volunteer and to give Colonel Adlercron all the Assistance in his power, and when it was imagined Trichenopoly would be the Scene of Action his Intention was to join the Troops at Fort St. David, and proceed with them from thence, Afterwards when the French Army return'd from Trichenopoly and were collected at Wandervash, he offered to embark'd with all the Men that could be spared from Fort St: David and to land at Sadras, in order to join the Army in the most Expeditious manner. Being sensible how much his Presence would contribute to the Regulation and good conduct of the Army, and judging Fort St. David to be free from all danger, as the whole French Force was on this side, we approved of this Proposal, and Colonel Lawrance according landed neare Sadras with about one hundred men the 22d June, three days after the March of the Army, which he joined the 24th a few miles on the other side of Changleput.

To the Secret Committee for the time being of the Hon̄'ble East India Company, dated Fort St: George. 13th Octr 1757.

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5. The following therefore We judge to be very nearly a true Computation of the strength of the two nations—

English.		French.	
Europeans (of the Company's Troops) on the Coast before the arrival of the China Ships	1,300	Europeans on the Coast before the arrival of the late Squadron and exclusive of Mr Bussy's Army . . .	1,900
Recruits received by them . . .	84	Reinforcement recd by their late Squadron	1,000,
Enlisted from the Regiment . . .	334.		

6. Upon a Review of this vast superiority on the part of the Enemy, We judged it necessary to suspend all operations of the Field and keep our Troops collected in our several Garrisons.

* * * * * * *

14. Since writing so far, We are advised from Pulicat of the arrival there of a Portuguzee Snow from Bengall, she sailed from thence the 1st September and brought no English letters either publick or private, but the Master of her affirms that Admiral Watson died three days before, that the late Nabob is certainly killed and Japher Ally Cawn (formerly Meer Japher) peaceably settled in the Subahship: that Colonel Clive was at Muxadabad & that two or three of the Men of War were ready to come away.

We are with the greatest Respect
Honourable Gentlemen
Your faithful & most obt: humble Servants

FORT ST: GEORGE
13th October 1757.

GEORGE PIGOT
STRINGER LAWRANCE
HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME
ROBERT PALK

To the Secret Committee (for the time being) of the Hon̄'ble East India Company.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN—

1. The Pattamar was under Dispatch to Bombay with the Letter which we adressed to you under date the 13th Instant when a sloop arrived from Bengal, and immediately after His Majesty's Ship *Triton* and another Sloop, these have confirmed to us the most agreeable news of a Revoluation in that Province, attended with the greatest Hope of advantage to your affairs. The late Nabob having been defeated by Colonel Clive in a Battle fought near Muxadabad the 23d June, was cut off a few days afterward, and Japher Ally Cawn appointed in his Stead, who seems by our advices to be pretty well established—The enclosed copy of the Treaty made with him will inform you fully of the Rights and Privileges granted to the Company, and of the Restitution agreed to be made not only to the Company but to private people for the Losses sustained last year—The President and Council of Fort William advise under date the 11th August [illegible]t 32 Lacks of old Sicca Rupees had been received into the Company's Trea[illegible]n part of this Payment, and afterwards to the Amount of near 8 Lacks more [illegible] Toys and Jewells:

Viâ Bombay 4 copies
Fifth copy Ꝑ Pr Hen̄. Packet
Sixth copy Ꝑ Norfolk
Seventh copy Ꝑ Princess Augusta.

[illegible]..The Vessels confirm the News of the Death of Admiral Watson. The brave and publick Spirited a Commander, and one who had exerted himself so jealously for the Company's Service, is a misfortune which gives us the greatest concern:

3. Admiral Pocock has sent up orders for Commodore Steevens to join in Balasore Road, and writes us that He shall be ready to proceed to this Coast as soon as the Season will permit with His Majesty's Ships *Cumberland*, *Tiger*, *Salisbury* and *Bridgewater*. The *Kent* being condemn'd will be left in Bengal River—yesterday arrived the *Queenborough* with Dispatches for the Admiral. she left Commodore Steevens at St Augustine's, the middle of August, who intended to sail for Bombay soon after thereupon. We have dispatched with the utmost Expedition to that place the Admiral's orders to Mr Steevens, and wrote to him at the same time, that we could wish to see him at Madras on his Way if it is not inconsistent with those orders, as it may be a means of the more speedy Junction of the two Squadrons, for Mr Watson's passage from Bombay hither in December was very short, and Captain James from Bombay to Balasore last year was near 5 Months. We have been very cautious in giving our opinion to Mr Steevens, as we are uncertain whether It is Mr Pocock's Intention to come to the Coast as soon as the Ships are ready, or to wait in Balasore Road until joined by Mr Steevens:

4. The Letters we have received from the Select Committee at Bengal, give us no hopes of seeing any of the Troops We sent there return to the Coast—our Letter of the 13th acquaints you fully of our Strength compar'd with the Enemy's, since then about 15 more men have enlisted from the Regiment. The rest of the Men and all the Officers except Lieutenant Carnac, to whome We have given a Captain's Commission are preparing to embark for Europe. Apart will go on the *Tavistock* to Bombay in order to get a passage from thence:

5. The French made themselves Masters of Chittiput the 14th Instant after a considerable Loss. We have not yet discover'd what is their next design:

6. We have the pleasure to acquaint you of the safe arrival of the Company's ship *Warwick* at Bengal, but We have yet no Intelligence of the other Coast and Bay Ships.

We are very respectfully

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN

Your faithful and most obedient

humble Servants

FORT ST GEORGE.

20th October 1857.

GEORGE PIGOT

STRINGER LAWRANCE

HENRY POWNEY

ROBERT ORME

ROBERT PALK.

To the Secret Committee, for the time being of the Hoñ'ble East India Company, dated Fort St: George. 10th Novr 1757.

* * * * * * * *

SUPPLEMENT,

31. Your Commission as Major of the Coast has been delivered to Captain Polier, We have a very good opinion of His Military capacity; at the same time We cannot help observing that Inconveniences may arise from the Natural aversion which English Troops will always shew to the Command of a Foreigner, but We shall

7th September.

Minutes of committee.

not fail to support Major Polier by all the means in our power in the Rank you have been pleased to confer on him:

* * * * * * * *

34. When we mentioned in our Letter of the 1st March 1756. the Inconvenience of putting the Captains of your Swiss Companies upon a more advantageous footing than the English; We meant it not in favor of any particular Interests but to remove an object of General Complaint among a whole Corps, which is not unworthy your attention, for altho no officer can refuse a Duty to which he is appointed, yet it must be allowed that a Service is never so well carried on as when the Officers and Soldiers thro' a sense of equal good Treatment have a real zeal and good *will* to the Duty they are employed on. Since therefore you are pleased to empower us to make such Regulations in this particular as seem to us really necessary for the good of your service, It is our Intention when the Swiss Capitulation expires to level the whole of your Military upon one equal Establishment.

Exd.—B. M.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 821 F. D.—14-11-92.—500.

Chronological list of Clive's Autograph letters, with their subject.

Date, etc.	Subject.
1. 13th May 1756, Fort St. David.	Proposing to start for Madras by the "Success galley."
2. 25th June 1756, Fort St. David.	Intimating his order to dismiss the deserters (lascars) and to entertain the willing.
3. 2nd July 1756, 9 P.M. Fort St. David.	Stating his reluctance to advise on so nice a subject, referring Mr. Watson to the Government and to his own discretion and enclosing some intelligence.
4. 3rd July 1756, Fort St. David.	Intimating the return of two deserters and demanding information about one John Baptist Trienier, who is now out of the French service.
5. 6th July 1756, Fort St. David.	Stating that the place runs no risk but from the want of provision.
6. 10th July 1756, Fort St. David.	Representing the destitute condition of the families of dismissed lascars and enclosing Mr. Watson's reply on the same subject.
7. Ditto ditto	Recommending Mr. Norris to Mr. Pigot's favour.
8. 14th July 1756, Fort St. David.	Enclosing a return of the Garrison of Fort St. David and requesting for further reinforcement, promising at the same time strict economy and due obedience to orders.
9. 19th July 1756, Fort St. David.	Stating the desertion of some men in the garrison, and that the articles which the Governor wrote for are embarked, enclosing the sketch of the same.
10. 30th July 1756, Fort St. David.	A return of deserters from Monsr. DeLayrit.
11. 9th August 1756, Fort St. David.	Intimating the return of deserters and the arrival at Pondichery of a Colonel from Syllabad Jung, whose critical position is also explained.
12. 6th February 1757	Acquainting that he attacked the Nabab's army and made a prodigious slaughter, the Nabab decamping with the residue after sending him (to Clive) a letter.
13. 11th March 1757, Camp.	Intimating the Nabab's offer of a lack of rupees for English aid and co-operation, and further wishing himself to be in Madras in September.

HONOURABLE SIR & SIRS,—I was honour'd with your favour dated the 24th Janry. 1856 upon my return from Gheriah, and was in hopes a Committee would have been held time enough for me to have sent an answer thereto by one of   conveyances, but no Committee being held, will I hope excuse me yr Honr & S. for not acknowledging the receipt of your letter before.

The Committee of Bombay have sent on board the *Kent* a packet contg duplicates of the letters, papers, &c., sent ꝑ *Doddington*, which I have desired may be forwarded by the first safe sea conveyance, not judging it prudent to trust it by land. Mr Starke informs me the *Success Galley* will sail in two or three days for Madras, which I think will be a proper opportunity, and on which ship I propose continuing my passage for Fort St. George.

I have likewise received yr Honr &c. favour of the 14th April. The Committee of Bombay, to whose letter I must beg leave to refer yr Honr &c., will acquaint you with their reasons for not sending round the King's Troops.

I am, with Respect,
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,
Your Most Obedient Humble Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT ST. DAVID;
13th May 1756.

To the Hon'ble GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,—Your instructions shall be comply'd with. I have already sent orders for the lascars employ'd on board his Majesty's squadron to be struck off the Compy's Pay Rolls from the time they embark'd.

The men of Captains Polier & Gouppe's Companies shall be sent to Madrass by the first sea conveyance, and with them the deserter belonging to Captain Gouppe's Company under a proper guard.

I will give orders for the entertainment of all such lascars as can do the Compy any service & am with respect,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,
Your Most Obedient humble Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT ST. DAVID;
25th June 1756.

To the Hon'ble GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—I have this moment received the enclosed letter from Mr. Watson accompanied with one from Mr. De Layrt, translate of which I now forward.

I cannot take upon me to give any advice upon so nice a subject: on the one side our accquiescence may sink us in the opinion of the people of the country, on the other, it may serve to strengthen our alliance with the King of Tanjour on which much will depend in case of a rupture between the two nations.

I have referred Mr Watson to your Honr., &c., and to his own discretion.

It seems odd to me that the Governor of Tranquebar should not apply to the English for their mediation.

Enclosed you will receive some intelligence.

I am, with respect,
Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,
Your Most Obedient Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT ST. DAVID,
2nd July 1756.
9 o'clock P.M.

953 F. D.

To the Hon'ble GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—I have received your letter of the 30th June, and upon enquiry find that Edmund Glen, Corporal, and Benjamin Bradfield, Centinel, were returned the 8th of last month, and shall not fail informing you when any deserters are sent back, agreeable to the stipulation of the Cartel.

John Baptista Trienier came here two days ago; says he has been out of the French Service these two years, during which time he served one Meer Saib, a Moorman. Please give your directions about him.

The order signed by the Hon'ble the President shall be added to the book of Military Regulations agreeable to your instructions.

I am, with respect,
Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,
Your Most Obedient Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT ST. DAVID,
3rd July 1756.

To the Hon'ble GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—I have received your favour of the 4th enclosing two letters, open for Mr. Watson, and one open for the Governor of Tranquebar, all which have been forwarded agreeable to your directions.

I am much obliged to you for the intelligence contained in one of Mr. Watson's letters, intelligence of a very serious nature indeed, which calls for every expedient in our power to ward off the blow so much dreaded by the Gentlemen of the Committee at home.

It is recommended to us particularly to avoid hazardous enterprizes: were hazardous enterprizes ever undertaken by men of prudence but in desperate circumstances, and can there be a more effectual method thought of to save the settlements from the hazardous enterprizes of our enemies than by the vigorous assistance of his Majesty's squadron which, give me leave to say, ought to be reinforced by all the ways and means possibly in our power, the protector is wrote for and (if there be time) cannot two of the Bombay Grebs be sent for likewise, cannot one or two of the Coast and Bay ships when they arrive be fitted out occasionally, I am sure their never was a time which required more vigorous measures.

Whether Mr. Watson's letter to Mr. De Layrit has had any effect, or whether the affrightend second of Tranquebar represented matters in a worse light than what they really were I know not, but it is certain the design of sending a reinforcement to that place is entirely dropt, tho' another of a more important nature is carrying on, I mean the embarkation yesterday evening of Mr. Law and five other officers with 150 Military for Melchlepatam, I have not yet heard that the ship is sailed.

Give me leave to offer to your consideration the state of the garrison as to provisions, which at present is stocked well with nothing but rice and firewood. Arrac, a very necessary articles, there is none, and as to other particulars, I must beg leave to referr you to an Indent for 6 months' provisions for the garrison of Fort St. David sent by the Gentlemen sometime ago. You will be pleased to give what orders you think proper, it is certain the place runs no risque but from the want of provisions.

I suppose the Admiral will inform you the *Salisbury* spoke with a French ship this morning from the Mauritius.

Enclosed you will receive copy of a letter from Manager and an intelligence.

I am, with respect,
Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,
Your Most Obedient Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT ST. DAVID,
6th July 1756.

To the Hon'ble GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—In a former Letter of yours dated the 23rd June, I received orders to strike off the Company's Pay Rolls of those Lascars that were employed on Board His Majesty's Squadron, in consequence of which their Wife's and Family's are starving and I have been obliged at last to give them one week's pay.

I have acquainted Mr. Watson therewith and at the same time enclosed him the para. of Your Letter, his answer is as follows:—

"I heartily wish it were in my power to abate the cries of the Lascars Wifes. Besides the positive Orders I received from the Admiralty, who laid me under an Injunction never to enter a Lascar on board the Squadron, you will be pleased to consider the condition of the obligation on which I took them, no otherwise than as I was unwilling to distress the Company's Affairs on a shore in drawing Colonel Aldereron's Regiment. You will farther consider for whose Service I took them, if for the Company's, where can be the hardship in paying them wages? if the King finds them victuals. In this particular of victualing them I am afraid I have exceeded the bounds of my orders, but farther I cannot go. If I return them on shore the consequence will be that I must make a longer demand on Colonel Aldercron's Regiments of the Company's Troops."

You will please to send me your instructions on this subject.

I am, with respect,
Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,
Your Most Obedient Humble Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT ST. DAVID,
10th July 1756.

The Admiral writes me the *Snow* has spoken with a large ship to the southward but knows not what she is.

DEAR SIR,—Mr. Wynch has wrote me he designs coming to this place the begining of next month, with which I have acquainted Mr. Norris.

I need not represent that Mr. Norris is very strongly recommended to me by Mr. Drake, his known merits will entitle him to Mr. Pigot's favour as well as mine, and as he cannot be second of this place, he is desirous of being 3rd. Mr. Turner likewise begs he may continue here though he be out of Council, the case is this, these Gentlemen and one or two more have built a house at their own expence, live together and are but one family, and have represented to me a separation will be attended with great inconveniency and expence to them all.

I am,
Dear Sir,
Your most oblig. hum. Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT ST. DAVID,
10th July 1756.

P.S.—The present Poliger of this place is as great a rascal as ever was unhanged, most notorious robberies are committed every night of the week, and I verily believe he is concerned himself, for out of the numerous complaints that have been made, he has never once given satisfaction or detected one man. I therefore propose turning him out if you have no objection, and making him pay for some of the late roberers by way of example, at the same time I shall write to the Worriar of Worriarpollam that I have appointed the old one in his rooms. Provisions are extravagently dear, which I believe is owing to the villany of the peons that guard the bound, who are constantly making the people pay some kind of toll or other. I hope soon to remedy this complaint.

To the Hon'ble GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,—I have your favour enclosing one for Admiral Watson, which was dispatched to him the moment I received it.

Upon the rec^{t} of your Letter I immediately called for a return of this Garrison which is now before me, and I find the Europeans fit for duty only 192 Rank and File, to which if we add the sick being 37, the total of Europeans Rank and File will be 231 sick and well; the Topasses, including those which are on board the Squadron, amount to 112, the whole military force of Dave Cota is but 92 officers included of which not more than 40 are Europeans, and if I take one half, the garrison will be in a most defenceless condition, and the Military will not even then amount to the number you mentioned. I enclose a Return of Fort S^{t} David Garrison and one got from Cap^{t} Callendar of Dave Cota for your inspection.

The Artillery Men will amount to near the number specified in your letter including the 25 which were ordered to join Captain Hyslop's Detachment, and who have not sufficient practice to be much depended upon.

I shall always pay great defference to Col. Aldercron and Col. Lawrance's opinion and agree with them that 400 Men Rank and File with 60 Men of the Train of Artillery and 10 Companies of Seapoys will be a sufficient force for the defence of this place, but I beg leave to ask whether they include in the number 112 Toppasses and 37 Europeans sick and unfit for duty. I flatter myself they will think with me as many good Seapoys would render the Company more service.

It was formerly a custom at the presidency to supply their Subordinate Settlements with the most indifferent of every thing, this charge cannot be laid to the President and Committee at Fort S^{t} George who has always bestowed an equal regard and attention on all our Hon'ble Master's settlements in general, and I am persuaded they will think this Garrison should be reinforced when they come to find its strength with the addition of what can be spared from Dave Cota falls short of what they proposed for its defense.

I must therefore offer to your consideration whether it would not be a step consistent with the safety of this place to desire one of the Company's belonging to the King's Regiment might be left here, and 10 or 12 of the King's Artillery Men, in such case I will be answerable for the defence of Fort S^{t} David, it can be attended with no inconveniency to our civil affairs, as I have the hon^{r} of his Majesty's Commission.

You may be assured of my assiduity and diligence in getting the troops, military stores, &c., embarked with the utmost expedition, tho' I believe the Squadron cannot sail in less than 4 or 5 days as Captain Hyslop informs me he cannot have every thing ready belonging to his Branch before that time.

Mr. Watson will supply me with the stores you mention, and you may be assured I will purchase nothing but what is absolutely necessary, most of the small articles may be secured when the danger is much nearer than at present.

Your instructions about the Seapoys without arms and the payment of the Lascars shall be obeyed.

I am, with Respect,
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,
Your Most Obedient Humble Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT ST DAVID;
The 14th July 1756.

To the Hon'ble GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—All the provisions, stores, &c., are landed from the Squadron, as will appear in the enclosed account signed by the Storekeeper.

Three of our deserters named Tho$^{s.}$ White, James Whitehead and Peter Loud, were returned two days ago by Mons$^{r.}$ DeLayrit, and one Backman, a Frenchman was returned by us.

Ten men from this Garrison are missing, and there is a moral certainty that they are concealed on board the Squadron, 3 were detected last night in sailors' habits endeavouring to get on board, I have wrote to Mr. Watson in the strongest terms about it, then I must further represent that if there is not some method thought of to convince the Inferior Officers on Board the Squadron that they will incur the Admirals' displeasure by harbouring our men, there will be no end to desertions of the kind and the Compy. will receive infinite detriment from those that came on purpose to protect and serve them.

I am sorry to inform you that through the obstinacy of the boat-fellows in coming on shore in the night time one of the boats loaded with powder has been stove, 29 barrels are much damaged and 2 entirely lost, I have sent to secure the boat-fellows who absconded upon the accident happening.

Being greatly in want of good drillmen for exercising the Military, I have apply'd to Coll. Bagshaw who has supply'd me with two for that purpose, and I shall order. both Officers and Soldiers out every morning. till they are thoroughly acquainted with their duty.

All the Articles the Gov$^{r.}$ has wrote for as far as this Garrison can supply them are embarked except 15 of the 9-pounders, and I am in some doubt whether they can be got off in time as the Admiral is determined to sail by twelve o'clock this evening.

Enclosed you will receive a little sketch of what articles are sent on board.

I am, with respect,
Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,
Your most obedient humble servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT ST. DAVID;
19th July 1756.

P. S.—I have sent on board the *Kent* under charge of the King's guard ship deserters, and I suppose your former orders about sending the men belonging to Gouppe's and Poliers Companies are over-ruled by y^{r} late instructions ordering me to complete this Garrison to 400 men rank and file.

To the Hon'ble GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—Yesterday Mons$^{r.}$ DeLayrit, returned the following deserters:—

Capt. Gardiner's Compy.		Peter Garron.
Capt. Lin's	do.	—— Lavier.
		St. Vanaron.
Capt. Callender's	do.	La Peshier.
Capt. Polier's	do.	John Rolluh.

All foreigners and five of the ten men whom I thought had embarked on board the squadron.

I am, with respect,
Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,
Your most obedient humble servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT ST. DAVID;
30th July 1756.

To the Hon'ble George Pigot, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee,

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,—Before your favour of the 6th August came to hand, the major part of the draft bullocks belonging to the Compy. had set out for Madras, the rest shall be sent immediately.

The Deserter Trienier shall be returned agreeable to your directions and the men of Poliers and Gouppes Companies sent by the first sea conveyance.

I have received some intelligence, which I think may be depended upon, *viz.*, that a camel is arrived express at Pondicherry from Syallabat Jung with proposals for an accommodation, if there be any truth in this report (as I fear there is) you will best know what reflections to make or steps to take upon so important a subject, it is said Syllabat Jung is under great apprehension of being left to the mercy of the Morattas if the French are destroyed, and that he depended upon the English assistance to protect him against their superior forces.

I find it was the practice of the late Deputy Governor to send the paymaster a half monthly accounts of spy money expended, specifying the particular places were such spies were stationed and how employed; the absurdity of this custom needs no explanation, and if you approve of it, will only make the country Dr. to Cash expended on Secret Services and transmitt to you the particulars of that expence monthly, there are several unnecessary articles which I have struck off, and am, with respect,

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,
Your most obedient Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

Fort St. David;
9th August 1756.

Gentlemen,—I have but just time to acquaint you that yesterday morning we attacked the Nabab's Army consisting of 47,000 men and made a prodigious slaughter, the loss on our right side is very considerable, 67 Military killed and wounded with over 100 Seapoys, and Officers killed are Captain Bridge and Pye, Captain Gripe, Lieutenant Marboldy, Ensigns Ellis, Kirja Sing wounded, Noor Bolsher is killed.

Now to the consequence of this blow.

The Nabab has decamped with his whole Army; he wrote me a letter that he will comply with all our demands except a sum of money for the inhabitants, *viz.*, that he will put me in possession of every thing granted by the Royal Phirmaund, liberty to fortify Calcutta as we please, and the liberty of a Mint. He concludes with desiring me to sign these proposals, and this he will sign and seal them immediately;—that he will send me a Seerpah elephant and jewells.

I am, Gentlemen, with respect,
Your most obedient servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

Camp;
6th February 1757.

Dear Sir,—Having just heard that the *Walpole* is still in the river, I am in hopes this will reach you. Since my last the *Cumberland* is arrived, by whom I recd. your favour of the 1st instant.

I have already acquainted you of the revolution which has happened at Dilly, since which the Nabab writes me, he has received advices that the Afghans are marching towards his provinces. He has desired me in the strongest terms to join him, and has afford to pay a Lack of Rupees per month for the maintenance of the forces. The Gentlemen here as well as myself are of opinion the offers are too advantagious to be refused, indeed our late Treaty binds us to assist him, and I need not represent that if these plunderers get into the province, there will be an end to the Compy's. affairs for some time, part of the Nabab's

Army are already marched for Patna, and he himself will leave Muxadabad very soon with the rest.

I began my march on the 8th and am close to Chandarnagore, the Nabab testifies some reluctance at our attacking this place, however I am in hopes we shall not leave it behind us, the large ship I believe will move up on Monday, the arrival of the Bombay troops, with those on the *Cumberland*, and the Seapoys coming from the coast, will render our force considerable, and I hope all these disturbances will be at an end time enough for me to be with you in September, before which I had very little hopes of seeing Madras had nothing of this kind happened.

Cassimbazar Factory with a considerable quantity of goods are restored, and I believe the rest of the Articles will very soon be complied with, the 3 lacks will be paid in a day or two.

The Gentlemen of the Committee will excuse my not writing them, having but just time to finish this.

I am,
Dear Pigot,
Very affect. friend and huml. Servant,

CAMP,
11th March 1757.

ROBERT CLIVE.

953 F. D.

Government of India Central Printing Office—No 953 F. D.—22-5-9-.—50—A. E. deS.

[Military Consultation, Vol. 2, 1756.]

Monday the 17th May 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE PRESENT

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., *Governor*, *President*,
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
ROBRET ORME,
WILLIAM PERCEVAL,
HENRY POWNEY,
ALEXANDER WYNCH,
ROBERT PALK.

* * *

Letter from Robert Clive, Esq., read as follows:—

TO THE HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esq.,
President and Governor, &c., Gentlemen of the Committee at Fort St. George.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,

I was honor'd with your favor dated the 24th January 1756 upon my return from Ghereah, and was in hopes a Committee would have been held time enough for me to have sent an answer thereto by one of the late Conveyances, but no Committee being held will I hope excuse me to your Honor, &c., for not acknowledging the receipt of your Letter before.

The Committee of Bombay have sent on board the *Kent*, a Packet containing Duplicates of the Letters, Papers, &c., sent per *Dodington*, which I have desired may be forwarded by the first safe Sea Conveyance not judging it prudent to trust it by Land. Mr. Starke informs me the *Success* Galley will sail in two or three days for Madras, which I think will be a proper Opportunity, and on which Ship I purpose continuing my passage for Fort St. George.

I have likewise receiv'd your Honor, &c's., Favor of the 14th April. The Committee of Bombay to whose Letter I must beg leave to refer your Honor, &c., will acquaint you with their reasons for not sending round the King's Troops.

I am with Respect, Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient, humble Servant

ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT ST. DAVID,
13th May 1756.

As we may expect to see Mr. Clive in two or three days it is unnecessary to write any answer to his above Letter.

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GEORGE PIGOT,
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
HENRY POWNEY,
ROBERT ORME,
A. WYNCH,
WILL^{M} PERCEVAL,
ROBERT PALK.

AT A COMMITTEE PRESENT.

Tuesday the 29th June 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., *Governor, President.*
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
ROBERT ORME,
WILLIAM PERCEVAL,
HENRY POWNEY,
ALEXANDER WYNCH,
ROBERT PALK.

* * * * * * *

Received the following Letter from Robert Clive, Esq.,

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,

Your Instructions shall be complied with, I have already sent orders for the Lascars employ'd on board his Majesty's Squadron to be Struck off the Company's Pay-Rolls from the time they embarked.

The men of Captains Polier and Gaupp's Companies shall be sent to Madras by the first Sea Conveyance, and with them the Deserter belonging to Captain Gaupp's Company under a proper Guard.

I will give orders for the entertainment of all such Lascars, as can do the Company any service, and am with Respect

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT ST. DAVID,
25th June 1756.

* * * * * * *

GEORGE PIGOT,
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
HENRY POWNEY,
ROBERT ORME,
A. WYNCH,
WILL^M PERCEVAL,
ROBERT PALK.

Sunday the 4th July 1756,

AT a COMMITTEE PRESENT.

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ., *Governor, President,*
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
ROBERT ORME,
WILLIAM PERCEVAL,
HENRY POWNEY,
ALEX. WYNCH,
ROBERT PALK.

The following Letter just now received from Robert Clive, Esq.,

Read with copy of a Letter from Rear Admiral Watson to him and Translation of a Letter from M^r de Leyrit to M^r Watson:—

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,

I have this moment receiv'd the inclos'd letter from M^r Watson, accompanied with one from Mr. de Leyrit, Translate of which I now forward.

I cannot take upon me to give any advice upon so nice a subject, on the one side our acquiescence may sink us in the opinion of the people of the country, on the other it may serve to strengthen our alliance with the King of Tanjour on which much will depend in case of a rupture between the two Nations.

I have referred Mr Watson to your Honor, &c., and to his own discretion.

It seems to me odd that the Governor of Tranquebar should not apply to the English for their mediation.

Inclos'd you will receive some Intelligence.

I am with Respect
HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,
Your most obedient humble Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT St DAVID,
2nd July 1756.
9o' Clock P. M.

* * * * * * *

GEORGE PIGOT,
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
HENRY POWNEY,
ROBERT ORME,
ALEX. WYNCH,
WILLM. PERCEVAL,
ROBERT PALK.

Saturday the 10th July.

AT A COMMITTEE PRESENT

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., *Governor, President,*
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
ROBERT ORME,
WILLIAM PERCEVAL,
HENRY POWNEY,
ALEX. WYNCH,
ROBERT PALK.

* * * * * * *

The following Letters from Robert Clive, Esq.,
Read:—

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

I have receiv'd your letter of the 30th June, and upon enquiry found that Corporal Glen and Benjamin Braddfield centinel were return'd the 8th of last month, and shall not fail informing you when any Deserters are sent back, agreeable to the Stipulations of the Cartel.

John Baptista Trimien came here two days ago, says he has been out of the French Service these two years, during which time he served one Meer Saib, a Moor man, please to give your directions about him.

The order signed by the Hon'ble the President shall be added to the Book of Military Regulations agreeable to your Instructions.

I am with Respect
HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,
Your most obedient Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT ST. DAVID,
3rd July 1756.

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

I have receiv'd your favor of the 4th, inclosing two letters open for Mr. Watson, and one open for the Governor of Tranquebar, all which have been forwarded agreeable to your directions.

I am much obliged to you for the intelligence contained in one of Mr Watson's Letters, intelligence of a very serious nature indeed, which calls for every expedient in our power to ward off the blow so much dreaded by Gentlemen of the Committee at home.

It is recommended to us particularly to avoid hazardous enterprizes, were hazardous enterprizes ever undertaken by men of prudence? but in desperate circumstances, and can there be a more effectual method thought of to save our Settlements from the hazardous enterprizes of our enemies than by the vigorous assistance of His Majesty's Squadron, which give me leave to say ought to be reinforced by all the ways and means possibly in our power; the *Protector* is wrote for (and if there be time) cannot two of the Bombay Grabs be sent for likewise, cannot one or two of the Coast and Bay Ships when they arrive be fitted out occasionally. I am sure there never was a time which required more vigorous measures.

Whether Mr Watson's letter to Mr de Leyrit has had any effect, or whether the affrightened Second of Tranquebar had misrepresented matters in a worse light than what they really were, I know not, but it is certain the design of sending a reinforcement to that place is entirely dropt, tho' another of a more important nature is carrying on, I mean the embarkation yesterday evening of Mr Law and five other Officers with 150 Military for Metchlepatam. I have not heard that the Ship is sailed.

Give me leave to offer to your consideration the state of this Garrison as to provisions, which at present is Stocked with nothing but Rice and Firewood; Arrack, a very necessary article, there is none, and as to other particulars, I must beg leave to refer you to an Indent for 6 months provisions for the Garrison of Fort St David sent by the Gentlemen sometime ago. You will be pleased to give what orders you think proper, it is certain the place runs no risque but from the want of Provisions.

I suppose the Admiral will inform you the *Salisbury* spoke with a French Ship this morning from the Mauritius.

Inclosed you will receive copy of a letter from Monagee, and some Intelligence.

I am with Respect
HONORABLE SIR & SIRS
Your most Obedient Servant,

ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT ST DAVID,
6th July 1756.

* * * * * *

GEORGE PIGOT,

STRINGER LAWRENCE,

HENRY POWNEY,

ROBERT ORME,

ALEX. WYNCH,

WILLM. PERCEVAL,

ROBT. PALK.

Monday the 12th July 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE PRESENT,

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., *Governor, President,*
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
ROBERT ORME,
WILLIAM PERCEVAL,
HENRY POWNEY,
ALEX. WYNCH,
ROBERT PALK.

* * * * * * *

Received the following letter from ROBERT CLIVE, Esq.;

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

In a former letter of yours dated the 23rd June, I receiv'd orders to strike off the Company's Pay rolls, those Lascars that were employed on board his Majesty's Squadron, in consequence of which their wives and families are starving, and I have been obliged at last to give them one week's pay.

I have acquainted Mr Watson therewith, and the same time inclosed him the paragraph of your letter, his answer is as follows :—

" I heartily wish it were in my power to abate the cries of the Lascars' " wives. Besides the positive orders I received from the Admirality, who laid me " under an injunction never to enter a Lascar on board the Squadron, you will " be pleased to consider the condition of the obligation on which I took them, " no otherwise, than as I was unwilling to distress the Company's affairs on " Shore in draining Colonel Adlercron's Regiment. You will further consider for " whose service I took them, if for the Company's, where can be the hardship " in paying them wages (?), if the King's, find them victuals. In particular I " am affraid I have exceeded the bounds of my Orders, but farther I cannot " go. If I return them on shore the consequence will be that I must make a " larger demand on Colonel Adlercron's Regiment.

You will please to send me your instructions on this subject,

I am with Respect
HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,
Your most Obedient Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT ST. DAVID,
10th July 1756.

* * * * * * *

Wednesday the 14th July 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE PRESENT.

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ.,. *Governor, President*

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

ROBERT ORME,

WILLIAM PERCEVAL,

HENRY POWNEY,

ALEX. WYNCH,

ROBERT PALK.

The President acquaints the Committee that upon Intelligence received last night from the Governor and Council of Fort William of dangerous disturbances raised in Bengal by the new Nabob. It was resolved in Council this morning to send thither a reinforcement of two hundred men under the Command of Major Kilpatrick, and that Captain Lin, Captain Lieutenant Godwin, Lieutenant Eidman, and Ensigns Vonga and Flaction being appointed for this Expedition, he had sent them orders to repair immediately hither.

Agreed to dispatch a Pattamar immediately to Bombay to advise the Select Committee there of the inttelligence received from Bengal, and of the Draft of Men it obliges us to make from hence, representing to them that it is by so much the more necessary we should be reinforced to the utmost of their power without loss of time.

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GEORGE PIGOT,
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
HENRY POWNEY,
ROBERT ORME.
ALEX. WYNCH,
WILLm PERCEVAL,
ROB. PALK.

Sent the following letters to the Select Committee at Bombay and to Captain Charles Campbell, pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

To the HON'BLE RICHARD BOURCHIER, Esq., President and Governor, and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Bombay.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

We have received last night letters from the Governor and Council of Bengal of the 4th and 7th of last month advising us of the great loss the Company have already sustained by the surrender of Cassimbazar to the new Nabob, who marching with a numerous Army between that place and Calcutta, surrounded the abovementioned Factory, and obliged Mr Watts and his Council on frivolous pretences to pay him a visit and to give up the Fort, and the Army is now marching on towards Calcutta.

This has lain the Gentlemen of Bengal under a necessity of demanding Troops from us, which, notwithstanding our own situation, the necessity of preserving so valuable a Settlement, has obliged us to comply with, and we doubt not but this will be a further inducement to you to reinforce us as soon and as much as possible.

We are Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,
Your most obedient humble Servants,
GEORGE PIGOT & Committee.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
14th July 1756.

* * * * * * *

To the Hon'ble George Pigot, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

I have your favor inclosing one for Admiral Watson, which was dispatched to him the moment I received it.

Upon the receipt of your letter I immediately called for a return of this Garrison, which is now before me, and I find the Europeans fit for duty only 192 Rank and File, to which if you add the sick being 37, the to tal of Europeans Rank and File will be 231 sick and well. The Topasses, those which are on board the squadron amount to 112, the whole Military Force of Devecotah is but 92, Officers included, of which not more than 40 are Europeans, and if I take one half, the Garrison will be in a most defenceless condition, and the Military will not even then amount to the number you mention. I inclose a Return of Fort S^t^ David Garrison, and one I got from Captain Callender of Devecotah for your Inspection.

The Artillerymen will amount to near the number specified in your letter, including the 25 which were ordered Captain Hislop's Detachment, and who have not had sufficient practice to be depended on.

I shall always pay great defference to Colonel Adlercron and Colonel Lawrence's opinion, and agree with them that 400 men, Rank and File, with 60 men of the Train of Artillery and 10 Companies of Seapoys, will be a sufficient Force for the defence of this place, but I beg leave to ask, whether they include in the number 112 Topasses and 37 Europeans sick and unfit for duty. I flatter myself they will think with me, as many good Seapoys would render the Company more service.

It was formerly a custom at the Presidency to supply their subordinate Settlements with the most indifferent of every thing, this charge cannot be laid to the President and Committee of Fort S^t^ George who have always bestowed an equal regard and attention on all our Honorable Masters Settlement, in General, and I am persuaded they will think this Garrison should be reinforced when they come to find its strength, with the addition of what can be spared from Devecotah falls short of what they proposed for its defence.

I must therefore offer to your consideration, whether it would not be a step consistent with the safety of this place to desire one of the Company's belonging to the King's Regiment might be left here, and 10 or 12 of the King's Artillery men, in such case I will be answerable for the defence of Fort St David, it can be attended with no inconveniency to our Civil affairs, as I have the honour of His Majesty's Commission.

You may be assured of my assiduity and diligence in getting the Troops, Military Stores, &c., embarked with the utmost expedition, tho' I believe the Squadron cannot sail in less than 4 or 5 days as Captain Hislop informs me he cannot have every thing ready belonging to his branch before that time.

Mr. Watson will supply me with the Stores you mention, and you may be assured I will purchase nothing but what is absolutely necessary, most of the small articles may be secured when the danger is much nearer than at present.

Your instructions about the Seapoys without arms and the payment of the Lascars shall be obeyed.

I am, with respect,
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,
Your most obedient Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT S^T^ DAVID,
14th July 1756.

Our Force is lessen'd so considerably by the Draft made for Bengal that it would not be prudent to leave any part of the Regiment at Fort S^t^ David, the Garrison of which place is now much stronger in proportion to the fortifications they have to defend than this, which besides will probably be the first attacked by the French, should they have a design against our Settlements.

It would be doing injustice to Mr. Watson were we not on this occasion to take notice of the readiness he has at all times shewn to assist in any measure that have been judged for the Company's Benefit.

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GEORGE PIGOT,
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
HENRY POWNEY,
ROBERT ORME,
ALEX. WYNCH,
WILLM. PERCEVAL,
ROBT. PALK.

Friday the 23d July 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE PRESENT.

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., *Governor, President*
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
ROBERT ORME,
WILLIAM PERCEVAL,
HENRY POWNEY,
ALEX. WYNCH,
ROBT. PALK.

The following letter from ROBERT CLIVE, Esq., Read.

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

All the provisions, Stores, &c., are landed from the Squadron as will appear from the inclosed accounts signed by the Store-keeper.

Three of our deserters named Thomas White, James Whitehead, Peter Land were returned two days ago by Monsr. Leyrit and one Backman was returned by us.

Ten men from this Garrison are missing, and there is a moral certainty that they are concealed on board the Squadron, 3 were detected last night in Sailors habits endeavouring to get on board. I have wrote to Mr. Watson in the strongest terms about them, and I must further represent that if there is not some method thought of to convince the inferior Officers on board the Squadron that they will incur the Admiral's displeasure by harbouring our men, there will be no end to desertions of this kind, and the Company will receive infinite detriment from those that come on purpose to protect and serve them.

I am sorry to inform you that through the obstinacy of the boat-fellows in coming ashore in the night time, one of the boats loaded with powder has been stove, 29 barrels are much damaged, and 2 entirely lost; I have sent to secure fellows who absconded upon the accident happening

Being greatly in want of good Drill men for exercising the Military, I have applied to Colonel Bagshaw, who has supplied me with two for that purpose; and I shall order both officers and soldiers out every morning till they are thoroughly acquainted with their duty.

All the articles the Governor has wrote for, as far as this Garrison can supply them, are embarked, except 15 of the 9 Pounders, and I am in some doubt whether they can be got off in time, as the Admiral is determined to sail by 12 o'clock this evening.

Inclosed you will receive a little sketch of what articles are sent on board.

I am with respect
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedient humble Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

Fort St. David,
19th July 1756.

P.S.—I have sent on board the *Kent* under charge of the King's Guard five Swiss deserters, and I suppose your former orders about sending the men belonging to Gaupp's and Polier's Companies, are overuled by your late instructions, ordering me to compleat this Garrison to 400 men Rank and File.

GEORGE PIGOT,
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
HENRY POWNEY,
ROBERT ORME,
ALEX. WYNCH,
WILLM PERCEVAL,
ROBERT PALK.

Saturday the 21st August 1756.

At a Committee Present.

George Pigot, Esq., *Governor, President,*
Stringer Lawrence,
Robert Orme,
Robert Palk,
Henry Powney,
William Perceval.

The President acquaints the Committee that intelligence was received on the 16th Instant of the taking of Calcutta by the Moors on the 20th June, in consequence of which it having been resolved in Council to send as large a Force as can possibly be spared from hence to make an effort for the re-establishment of that valuable Settlement, he dispatched orders the 17th Instant to Captain Pye to march hither with the Army from Conjeveram.

As this turn of affairs will render us unable to detach any party to Salabat Jung until our Troops come back from Bengal, or some considerable reinforcements arrive, It is now agreed to write letters to him, his Vizir Shaw Navaz Cawn, and his Dewan Mahomed Moheen Cawn, setting forth that our desire of preserving the Carnateck from the designs of the enemy has exposed us to the present calamity in Bengal, by the necessity we have been under of detaining all the Troops intended for that place—explaining to them the legality of the Company's right to their Settlements in Bengal founded on the Phirmaunds of the Great Mogul—enlarging upon the increase of the riches and revenues which those Settlements have brought into the Mogul's country, and the vast loss the Company have sustained by this unjust and violent proceeding of the Nabob of Bengal, which has obliged us to detach thither that very force which we had prepar'd for his (Salabat Jung's) service, and concluding with assurances that we are under the greatest concern for this disappointment, that we shall always be glad to assist in his affairs, and that as soon, as a just satisfaction is obtained from the Nabob of Bengal our Troops will return and be ready to act according to his orders.

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Letter from Robert Clive Esq. Read as follows:—

To the Hon'ble George Pigot Esq, and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

Before your favor of the 6th August came to hand, the Major part of the Draft Bullocks, belonging to the Company had set out for Madras, the rest shall be sent immediately.

The deserterTrimien shall be returned agreeable to your directions, and the men of Polier's and Gaupp's Companys sent by the first Sea Conveyance.

I have received some intelligence which I think may be depended on, *vizt*., that a Camal is arrived express at Pondicherry from Salabat Jung with proposals for an accommodation. If there be any truth in this report (as I fear there is) you will best know what reflections to make or steps to take upon so important a subject. It is said Salabat Jung is under great apprehensions of being left to the mercy of the Morattas if the French are destroyed, and that depended on the assistance of the Engligh to protect him against their Superior Forces.

I find it was the practice of the late Deputy Governor to send the Paymaster a half monthly account of spy money expended, specifying the particular places where such spies were stationed and how employed, the absurdity of this custom needs no explanation, and if you approve of it, will only make the Company Dr. to cash expended on secret services, and transmit to you the particulars of that expence monthly. There are several unnecessary articles which I have struck off, and

am with respect
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,
Your most obedient Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

Fort St. David,
9th August 1756.

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GEORGE PIGOT,
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
HENRY POWNEY,
ROBERT ORME,
WILLm. PERCEVAL,
ROBERT PALK.

Wednesday the 22nd September 1756.

At a Committee Present.

George Pigot, Esq., *Governor*, *President*,
Robert Clive,
Henry Powney,
Willm Perceval,
Stringer Lawrence,
Robert Orme,
Robert Palk.

Letter from Roger Drake, Esqr., Peter Godfrey, Esq., Jones Raymond, Esq., John Payne, Esq., and Christopher Burrow, Esq., the Secret Committee of the East India Company, dated the 13th February 1756, and received per Ships *Walpole* and *Chesterfield*, Read,

By the 3rd Paragraph it is observed that this Committee are invested with the power of "transacting affairs, and taking such measures as shall best con-"duce to the protection and preservation of the Company's Estate, Rights and "Priviledges, and to correspond and act in concert with the Select Committee at "Bengall and at Bombay, for the general and particular protection of the Com-"pany's Trade, Possessions and Rights, wherever, and whenever they may be in "danger; the powers of the Committee never having been before so fully "explained it was imagined that they extended only to negotiations with the "Princes of the Country, and Foreign European Nations, and to the operations "of the Troops in the Field; for this reason the conduct of the intended expedi-"tion to Bengal has unto this time been had under the deliberation of the whole "Council, but it now appears beyond doubt that it ought to have fallen under "the Management of this Committe, and that the future directions of it should "be refered hither."

Ordered that the paragraph before mentioned of the Serect Committee's letter be laid before the President and Council together with the above opinion.

The Council having accordingly met came to the following Resolution:—

"That the transactions for re-establishing the Company in their Rights "and Priviledges at Bengal do properly fall under the direction of the Select "Committee by virtue of the foregoing paragraph, that it be therefore refered to "the said Committee to do therein as they shall think proper, and that they be "fully informed of the steps that have already been taken."

The President then acquaints the Committee that the last determination of the Council concerning this expedition was that the whole Squadron should proceed with six hundred Men, Rank and File, and the Detachment of His Majesty's Artillery under the Command of Captain Hislop with the guns, etc., thereunto belonging, the whole commanded by Colonel Clive, under the general direction of Commissaries appointed with full powers for the conduct of the Treaties to be made with the Nabob of Bengal, or of the operations of the Forces against him, which Commissaries so appointed were Colonel Clive, Mr. John Smith, and Mr. John Walsh.

And that a letter conformably to the said Resolution was wrote to Colonel Adlercron but no answer yet received.

Agreed that the consideration of the other parts of the Secret Committee's Letters be defered to another opportunity.

GEORGE PIGOT,
ROBERT CLIVE,
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
HENRY POWNEY,
ROBERT ORME,
WILL^M. PERCEVAL,
ROBT. PALK,

Friday the 24th September 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE PRESENT

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., *Governor, President.*
ROBERT CLIVE,
HENRY POWNEY,
WILLIAM PERCEVAL,
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
ROBERT ORME,
ROBERT PALK.

The foregoing Letter from Colonel Adlercron dated the 23r Instant Read, and after due consideration had, the Committee Resolve to land the King's

Train of Artillery with the utmost expedition, and to take no further notice of Colonel Adlercron's refusal, having already protested against him for all the bad consequence it may occasion. The Train appurtances, stores, and ammunition which were embarked along with the King's Artillery, belonging partly to the King and partly to the Company, cannot be landed and separated without much delay, it is therefore agreed to request of Colonel Adlercron to spare them for the service of the present expedition upon our promise to replace the same quantities immediately for the use of His Majesty's Train.

The following letter is accordingly wrote and signed and sent to Colonel Adlercron:

To John Adlercron Esq, Commander-in-Chief of the Land Forces in India.

Sir,

We have received the favor of your letter of yesterday's date.

We are now ordering His Majesty's Train of Artillery to be brought ashore from the *Marlbro'*, but as the Ammunition and Stores likewise sent on board that ship for the service of the Artillery consists of supplies issued from our stores which are in the package blended with those belonging to His Majesty, and as the unloading and separating these will be work of time and occasion delay, which it is of the last importance to avoid, as every day now lost greatly protract the passage of the Ships to Bengall. We take the liberty to request of you that you will permit all the stores and ammunition designed for the service of His Majesty's Artillery and already ship'd, may remain on board the *Marlbro'* for the service of the present expedition, and we do assure you, Sir, that we will immediately replace to you an equal quantity of Stores and Ammunition. We hope the favor of your compliance with this request, and beg that of your immediate answer to this address.

We have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient & most humble Servants,

GEORGE PIGOT & Committee.

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GEORGE PIGOT,
ROBERT CLIVE,
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
HENRY POWNEY,
ROBERT ORME,
WILL^M. PERCEVAL,
ROBERT PALK.

Tuesday the 28th September 1756.

At a Committee Present:

George Pigot, Esq., *Governor President*,
Robert Clive,
Henry Powney,
William Perceval,
Stringer Lawrence,
Robert Orme,
Robert Palk.

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Letters received by the Bombay Frigate from Bengall, *viz*t., two from Roger Drake, Esq., and several of the Gentlemen of the late Council of Fort

William, one from Major James Kilpatrick, and two from Mr. John Zephania Holwell, Read, as follows:—

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., President & Govr, &c, Council of Fort St. George.

HONORABLE SIR & SIRS,

We have received your several letters of the 8th, 14th & 20th July by the *Mermaid* Sloop, *Norwood* and *Delawar*, with the consignments of Treasure and Redwood your Honor &c have sent us on those vessels.

Major Kilpatrick and the Detachment under his Command joined us on the 31st ultimo; had his reinforcement arrived before the loss of our Settlement, it might have been of great use in defence of the place; but in our present situation we cannot pretend to undertake any thing with so small a force, and without Cannon, for which reason we flatter ourselves your Honor &c will comply with the request we have made by Mr Manningham (duplicate of which Address we now inclose you) for assisting us with a sufficient Force both Military and Marine in order to re-establish the Hon'ble Company's Settlements in these Provinces, the importance whereof to our employers we leave your Honour &c to judge.

Major Kilpatrick has in a separate letter transmitted you a return of the Military and Stores now in the Fleet; from which your Honor &c will judge what Stores and Ammunition will be wanting, and supply us accordingly.

Should your Honor &c not have it in your power to furnish us with a proper and necessary force to re-establish us on a secure footing, we request you will send us the earliest notice of what we are to expect, as the season is far advanced, and our Ships will not be able to proceed to the Coast after the 20th or 25th September.

We are,
HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,
Your most obdedt humble Servts,

FULTA,
18th August 1756.

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior*,
PAUL RICHD. PARKES,
WILLIAM WATTS,
J. Z. HOLWELL,
P. AMYATT,
JAS. KILPATRICK,
WILLM MACKETT,
THOS. BODDAM.

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., President and Governor &c Council of Fort St George.

HON'OBLE SIR & SIRS,

That such advices and material transactions which are requisite to be performed with diligence and secrecy might be so practised, a Secret Committee is composed consisting of the Subscribers hereto, who have thought proper to keep from the knowledge of the publick the contents of your Honor &c's Letter dated the 4th Instant, per *Sea Force* Sloop enclosing Invoice of one hundred Barrells of Powder and twenty Barrells of Musquet Ammunition, with the agreeable advice of Admiral Watson having been so good as to spare the *Bridgwater* Man of War, in order that your Honor &c. might have conveyance to embark us a second Detachment with a further supply of Military Stores. From the latest advices we learn that the Nabob's Forces quartered now at Calcutta, Tanna Fort, and Bong Bonggee consist of about seven thousand, and that further numbers are ordered to proceed towards Calcutta. We esteem it necessary to acquaint your Honor &c. that many private letters advise that the *Bridgwater* and Forces are preparing to proceed to our relief, therefore to prevent too soon a publication of your resolutions touching what support you are able to afford us, we are to desire express orders may be given to every Commander of any Vessels proceeding down here, not to deliver any letters whatsoever but to the gentleman whom he may find acts at the Head of the Company's affairs.

We are with respect,
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,
Your most obedt. humble Servants,

Fulta,
19th August 1756.

ROGER DRAKE, Junior
J. Z. HOLWELL,
WILLIAM WATTS,
JAMES KILPATRICK.

To the Hon'ble George Pigot, Esq., President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St George.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,

I take this the first opportunity I could possibly meet with, to have the honour of acquainting you that I arrived in the river of the 28th Ultimo, with the Troops under my Command, mostly in good health and spirits. Of those I hear now inclose you a Return together with a state of the Military at Bengall and of the Ordnance Stores. I need not I believe inform you Gentlemen, of the melancholy news I met with upon my first arrival here, which you will no doubt have heard before this can reach you, and with all its cruel circumstances from Mr Manningham.

I left the *Delawar*, which is now safely come up, on the 30th Ultimo at the request of the Governour and Council, and found them the same day on board of their Ships in a situation not easy to be described. You may more easily imagine the condition of those poor Gentlemen, driven out from their habitations, driven out from all they have in the world, and what is worst, having lost all or almost all that had been committed to their charge, where many people around them who have also lost their all, are discontented and even troublesome, pretending to find fault and give their opinions without showing that respect which they ought. I hope however when we all meet, for there are still three of the Council up at the French Factory, that we shall be then able to re-establish harmony, and take such Resolutions as will be most for the benefit of the Hon'ble Company, and advantage of the whole.

When I mention the Council, I ought to inform you Gentlemen that I have the honour to act here as one of the Members in a manner at the desire of the Gentlemen themselves. For they told me that it was the Company's orders, that whenever a Major happened to be with them, he should always take the third place at the Board, which I accordingly did; tho' I let them know at the same time that I never had had that honour with you, and the reasons which had been given for it.

We have been pretty well supplied with provisions since I have come here, which has a good deal taken off from the apprehensions of the Country people, who I believe, are otherwise disposed to supply us, as we take care that they

are well used.

The place and situation we are in renders it extreamly unhealthy, and I am sorry to hear that it will be but more so as the season advances. Yet I don't believe we well can move from this,' till we have had advices from you; for I am informed that both sides of the river downwards, and a good way upwards, are so entirely swamps and paddy fields that it would be impossible to keep the people on shore: and to attack the enemy at present, though we were even sure to make ourselves Masters of Calcutta, would be to no manner of purpose in the world, if you are not in a condition to send us large supplies of in short every thing.

I have found neither men, guns, nor ammunition here. The inclosed will shew you our numbers. The four field Pieces you sent with me is all our Train; and the Ammunition you sent with those is all we have got of the kind. Captain Winter spared us some powder and lead with which I have made up about fifty rounds a Man which is all we have to trust to in case of an attack, of which we have had some uncertain reports, particularly from a great armament of Boats which we have heard they are preparing against us up the River.

Affairs are in such a situation here that I have entirely given over all thoughts for the present of returning home as I intended. I have always had that attachment to the Hon'ble Company, whatever disappointments I may have met with, as never to have let any private concerns sway with me where they were at all interested, nor would I ever leave their service unless I was extreamly ill used indeed, at a time when my staying might be so necessary as it very probably will be here. I was sorry it is true, to find this season that they had not thought it proper to put me on the footing that the station you had given me and my services I imagined might have deserved. But as I have always had so much your good inclinations Gentlemen, I hope you will be able to represent things to them in such a manner by the first shipping, that they will think it right to consider me in a way that will be both agreeable to me and for my honour.

I have the honour to be

with the greatest respect, and sincerely

From on Board the *Delawar*,
Fulta, *5th August 1756.*

Hon'ble Sir & Sir,

Your most obedient & most humble Servt.,

JAMES KILPATRICK.

To the Hon'ble George Pigot, Esq., President and Governour, &c., Council of Fort St. George.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,

Little capable as I am in my present distressed situation of executing a task of this kind, it yet cannot be neglected consistent with my duty to my Hon'ble Employers, and the trust last devolved on me at their Settlement of Fort William now their's no more, an incident I doubt not but you have before this been advised of by Pattamars from this City, and possibly by our late President from Ingilee; this conjecture however will not excuse my omitting to transmit you under General Heads the several gradations by which our Hon'ble Masters have sustained this important loss; these I am to request you will forward to them by the most expeditious conveyance in your power, whilst I refer them and you to a particular and distinct narrative of the causes and various accidents which contributed to our fatal catastrophe in those Provinces, which I will attempt as soon as the recovery of my health (now much impaired) will enable me.

Our Factory at Cossimbuzar being given up to the Nabob, the 4th of June last, (by the most unhappy and unaccountable infatuation in our Chief and Council there) the foundation of our ruin was laid; the accession was too great to the Nabob to be relinquished, and he was sensible he must relinquish it as well as restore our money and goods seized at the different Aurungs, or entirely extirpate us from the Province. The Cannon, Ammunition and Military Stores he became possessed of at Cossimbuzar determined him to the latter, and as he expected some succours might reach us from the Coast, he marched against us with the whole Force of his Army consisting by the best accounts we have since acquired, of 30,000 Horse and 35,000 Foot with four hundred Elephants of War; though our best information during his approach made his Force no more than 6 or 7,000 Horse and 12 or 15,000 Foot, nor could we ever learn with any certainty whether the Nabob marched against us in person or not, for he had cut off all communication between us and the Gentlemen of Cossimbuzar (whom with the Garrison he made prisoners) and our spies either had not courage enough to approach his army for just intelligence, or not integrity enough to give it us on the earliest notice of his real intention. We made all the disposition in our power for his reception, tho' I believe never was Fortress less defensible, encumbered with houses close round us impossible to destroy or pull down. No Esplanade for our guns. No ditch; no Glacis. A Ravalin half finished that did us more diservice than service; a number of lanes and avenues opening within less than half musket shot of our Fort. To remedy these evils, advanced Posts were appointed, ditches sunk, breast works thrown up and advanced Batteries raised at three principal posts, to wit, at the Court House Eastward, at the corner of Griffith's house to the Northward, and at Mr. Pearce's Bridge to the Southward, and the Jail was fortified as a further advanced Post. We had flattered ourselves that we should have mustered between five or six hundred effective men, Europeans and Blacks and Militia, Inhabitants, and those belonging to the Shipping, but to our utmost astonishment when our Military Roll was returned in Council it consisted only of 45 of the Train and 145 Infantry and in both only 60 Europeans, in the Militia were about 100 Armenians, who were entirely useless, and more than that number amongst the Black Militia, so that in fact when the sea-faring people who most of them appeared only at the first Muster were draughted off on board the Vessels (of which we had in Port about 30 sail of every Craft at least,) our Garrison did not consist of 250 fighting men, Officers included.

On the 7th June all provisions were prohibited by the Nabob being brought into Calcutta by orders to the several Zemindaars round us and the other side of the River; between the 10th & 13th June several parties of the Nabob's Troops took possession of Tanner's Fort to cut off our communication on the River from below; on the 14th three or four Ships were sent down to dislodge them, without effect; on the 16th Baagbazar Redoubt was attacked by the Nabob's Army, who were repulsed with considerable loss to them by Lieut. Blagg and Ensign Piccard and 25 men with 30 Buckserries. Here two European Soldiers were killed; and Mr. Ralph Thoresby, a hopeful young Gentleman, who with many others of the Junior Servants had entered Volunteers in the Infantry. About this time two Moors's Ships were brought under our Guns which by way of reprizal we had taken below. On the 17th all our Buckserries to the number of near 700 taken (the most of them) into our pay on this occasion fled to a man from out chowkeys, and I believe deserted to the Enemy. Early this day our principal posts to the Northward by Mr Griffith's was attacked, and something later that at the Court House by flying parties from the Streets and houses, whilst a multitude of detached parties from the Nabob's Army were plundering and destroying every part of the Town to the Northward; these two advanced Posts were continually alarmed and harrassed this whole day and the succeeding night and day, that is to say, the 18th, when the enemy brought a 12 pounder supported with about 5000 Musketry to bear against the Jail, which was gallantly defended by a French Officer, Monsr. La Beaume, with Ensign Carstairs and 32 men detached from the advanced Post at the Court House, and maintained until about noon, when Monsr. La Beaume and Ensign Carstairs being wounded, some of the Train killed, and others of the detachment disabled, the Post was relinquished and one field piece brought off with the Party. About 4 in the afternoon the enemy having taken possession of the houses all round the Advanced Post at the Court House it was ordered to be abandoned, and the same evening the like orders were sent to the other two Posts to the Southward and Northward and Piccard's Party recalled from Baag Bazar. This evening at a Council of War it was resolved to embark the Company's Treasure, Books, and the European Ladies, and further agreed that the ships should remain under the Guns of the Fort. Messrs. Manningham and Frankland, (the first Colonel, the other Lieut-Colonel of the Militia) conducted the Ladies on board, and I understood were to return, when they had reconciled the Ladies to their situation, but they never returned again, No more did Captain Lieut. Mapletoft, Lieut. Henry Wedderburn, Ensign William Sumner, Charles Douglas and Roberts Halsey Baldrick, all officers of the Militia, besides about 15 of the Volunteers and many of the Militia who deserted the Fort this day and the succeeding morning. On the 18th more advanced in the night, we held another Council of War, and the Captain of the Train being ordered to make a Return of the ammunition, we were thunderstruck when he reported there was not full three days' Ammunition in the Garrison, the debate then turned on the question, whether a retreat with the Garrison and all the Company's effects could be attempted that night, but so much of it elapsed in debate only, that it became impracticable 'till the next, when myself and I believe every body else present judged the Retreat was determined to be carried into execution. In the morning of the 19th the enemy were pretty quiet, and only now and then threw a random shot at the Fort from the Batteries they had raised in three or four different Stations, whilst they were busy in forming Lodgement in the house round us. About 9 this morning our President, Mr Drake, Commandant Minchin, Messrs Macket, 2nd Captain of Militia, Captain Grant, Adjutant General, Mr O'Hara, Lieutenant of the Train, privately withdrew out of the back gate, deserted the Factory, and embarked on board the Shiping, which immediately weighed and stood down the River, without leaving us a single boat at the Got, or possibility of making a General Retreat, and this, before any attack had been actually made on the Fort. On the Governour. &c's desertion being known, the Garrison fell into the utmost confusion and tumults, when the Gentlemen remaining of the Council, Officers and others, intreated I would immediately take upon me the Government of the Fort as the only means of quieting the present tumults which must otherwise end in the destruction of the whole. A Council was directly called, and Mr Pearkes waving his right of Seniority, himself and Messrs Eyre and Bailley appointed me Governor and Administrator of the Hono'ble Company's affairs during the troubles; in which light I was recognized by the whole Garrison. I immediately visited every Post and soon quieted the minds of the people by assuring them they should have three chests of Treasure divided amongst the Soldiers and Militia if they would defend the Fort until we could make a General Retreat with all the Company's effects, and that I would be the last man that quitted the Fort. At the Council held as above, we suspended the President and the Gentlemen of the Council and Officers with him from the Company's service, it being the only just piece of resentment in our power for the cruel piece of Treachery they had been guilty of. to the whole Garrison as well as breach of trust to their Employers. We likewise sent an order to Captain Hague, Commander of the Company's ship St *George* stationed at Baag Bazar to weigh and immediately drop down opposite the Lane between the new Godowns of the Factory and the Company's house, these new Godowns being the weakest part of the Fort and not flanked by any gun from it; the ship in this station would have accomplished this service, have contributed to dislodge the enemy from the Company's house, and have been under our Guns, as she was then the only chance we had for a General Retreat, three or four Boats being yet with her. Mr Pearkes was so obliging as to tender himself with three or four Volunteers on this service and went on board accordingly, but the Pilot neither that day nor the next would undertake to bring her down lower than opposite Mr. Watt's house where she was useless to us. To return to our situation. The 19th after the President's desertion from Council, I had hardly gone round the Ramparts before the enemy attacked the Fort incessantly the whole remainder of the day from their Batteries and small Arms, of the former from the Battery we had raised at the Court House, from another they had erected in Mr. Alsop's compound between the Court House, and the Jail, from the third erected at the South West corner of the Park, from a fourth in the Reverend Mr Bellamy's compound and from a small Battery they had raised by the Dock Head; they fired so widely from their Batteries they would not have made a breach in a twelve month tho' they fired from 18 pounders; but their small Arms from the Houses round us, particularly the Company's, Captain Rannie's and Mr. Cruttenden's, annoyed us much, from whence we several times dislodged them with great slaughter, and obliged them at last to set fire to them and abandon them. The 19th at night our people had some recess, but were obliged to sleep on their arms. The 20th in the morning the enemy formed three assaults at once, against the North West Bastion, the North West Futtock or Barrier, and against the windows of the Laboratory on the eastern Curtain, and attempted to scale to the northward, from each of these assaults they were beat off with great loss to them before noon, and a general cessation in a manner ensued for some hours, when finding we had 25 killed and 70 or more of our best men wounded, and our Train killed wounded and deserted to all but 14, and not two hours Ammunition left, we threw out a Flag of Truce towards the evening intending to amuse the enemy and make the best retreat we could in the night to the *St. George*, not then knowing that she was on a sand opposite to Omy Chund's house, during the Parley our back gate was betrayed to the enemy in concert I judge with some that that had deserted the preceeding night from the walls and those who had the Guard of that Gate, who were obliged to wrench off the locks and bolts, the Keys being in my possession; in this situation we had nothing left to resolve on but to surrender at discretion.

Thus have I transmitted to your Honour &c as circumstantial an account of this melancholy event, as my state of body and mind will at present permit me (ruined in my own private fortune as well as much injured in constitution of both), having barely strength to hold the pen a yet necessary period, whilst I advise you that of the enemy we killed first and last by their own confession 5,000 of their Troops and 80 Jemauldars and Officers of consequence, exclusive of the wounded. The resistance we made and the loss they suffered so irritated the Nabob that he ordered myself and all the prisoners promiscuously to the number of about 165 or 170 to be crammed all together into a small prison in the Fort called the Black Hole, from whence only about 16 of us came out alive in the morning, the rest being suffocated to Death. Amongst those, Myself, Mr. Richard Court, Mr. John Cooke, Mr. Lushington, Ensign Walcott, Mr. Burdett, (a young Gentleman Volunteer) Captn Mills, Captn Dickson, and about 7 or 8 Soldiers, Blacks and Whites; amongst the dead, Messrs. Eyre and William' Bailley, the Rev. Mr. Bellamy, Messrs. Jenks, Revely, Law, Coales, &c. Our three Military Captains and 9 Subalterns, many of our Volunteers and Inhabitants, of whom particular lists shall be forwarded to the Hon'ble Company as recollection enables me. Myself, Messrs. Court, Walcott and Burdet were sent to the Camp, the 21st in the morning, there put in Irons and marched the 22nd three miles to Town in the sun and our Irons, with no covering to our heads and hardly any to our bodies. At the Dock head we were detained the 22nd, 23rd and 24th; and the evening of that day put on board an open boat for this City, destitute of a Rupee or any necessaries of life, on the 7th Instant we arrived here (our subsistence in the way rice and water) and were deposited under a Guard in an open stinking Cow House, a spectacle to the whole City (and hardly escaped a second smothering) untill the 11th, when we were removed to the Jemauldar's house under whose custody we were; on the 15th we were again remanded to the Cow House, flattered with hopes of knowing our ultimate fate, there we remained that night, and yesterday had our fetters struck off and were once again blest with liberty and freedom to go where we pleased. The humanity and friendship we received here from the Gentlemen of the French and Dutch Factories will ever require our most grateful remembrance.

It only remains that I inform your Honour &c that at the first approach of the troubles, we wrote to Chundanagore and Hughly to join us in a cause we deemed common, and pressed their assistance with men and Ammunition, the answer we received from Hughley was, that they were ordered by their Principals to remain neuter in all disputes of this kind with the Government. From Chandanagore, the answer was more favourable but of equal utility to us, for when we pressed them for ships and Ammuntion they genteely refused us, and pleaded their own weakness. Neither were we deficient in writing letter after letter to the Nabob making him every concession in our power, of which he took not the least notice nor returned one Answer.

Your Honour &c have heard of the sufferings of the Gentlemen with me, which alone entitles them to the Hon'ble Company's favour, but I should do great injustice to Messrs Court and Walcott if I omitted mentioning them in the particular manner they merit; the former the only officer of the Militia, the other, the only one of the Military alive, who did not desert their Colours. The former has distinguished himself as a faithfull covenant Servant, and both as Gallant Officers. Dacca Factory is given up, but Luckipore received timely advice to withdraw, and have, I hear, joined our late President at Ingillee.

I am with respect

MUXADAVAD, Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

17th July 1756. Your most obedient humble Servt.,

J. Z. HOLWELL.

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., President and Governour, &c Council of Fort St. George.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

With this you have copy of my letter dispatched per Patamar from Muxadavad the 17th ultimo, on the reprizal of which I find a few errors and omissions occasioned by the wretched state I was then in, and which I now beg leave to rectify.

On the three Advanced Batteries being withdrawn Friday the 18th, possession was taken by our Troops of the Church, and Messrs. Eyres, Cruttenden's the Company's and Omy Chund's houses, but were all abandoned the next day (I think after the desertion of the President, Commandant &c.), but will be only positive as to the party in Mr. Cruttenden's house, commanded by Captn Lieutenant Smith; because when I was going round the Ramparts after being appointed to the Government of the Fort, I discoursed with that party from the Curtain next to Mr. Cruttenden's house.

In my letter of the 17th July, I omitted mentioning the enemy having made a lodgement on the Church on the morning of the 20th, but they did not finish their Breast Work of Bales upon it untill after 12. From this Post which commanded every line and Bastion of the Fort, the enemy must have been dislodged by a Counter Lodgement upon the top of the Factory House had there been Ammunition to have maintained the Fort any longer.

I likewise omitted mentioning that one of the Moor's Ships which were under our Guns, was intended to be taken with the *St. George* for the General Retreat we had intended and planned for the night of the 20th, and which would have been carried into execution the 19th at night, had the *St. George* come down to us with her boats.

In my mention of the Western Gate being betrayed to the enemy during the Party, I did not advise that the Guard there and a great part of the Garrison, Military and Militia rushed out the moment the Gate was opened and endeavoured to escape; many were killed, some escaped, and others received quarter. The Gate was forced by a Sergeant of the Train named Hedelburgh now in the service of the Nabob. During the Parley, the Southerly Futtock or Barrier was deserted by the Serjeant and Guard there, who fled, and the enemy forcing that Barrier, found nothing to oppose their entrance into the Fort, as soon as the Western Gate was forced. All the foregoing particulars in this paragraph came not to my Knowledge untill my return from Muxadavad.

I remarked to your Honour &c 5000 of the enemy being killed by their own confession; but from more certain intelligence their loss is first and last seven thousand at least.

I over reckoned the number of prisoners put into the Black Hole and the number of the dead; the former being only 146 and the latter 123, many recovering after air was let in by opening the door in the morning; and many more I doubt not might have recovered had any means or care been taken of them. I charged the Nabob with designedly having ordered the unheard of piece of cruelty of cramming us all into that small prison; but I have now reason to think I did him injustice. His orders I learn was only general "That we should be imprisoned that night, our number being too great to be at large." And being left to the mercy and direction of his Jemauldars and Burkandasses, their resentment for the number of their brethren slain took this method of revenge; and indeed they ceased not insulting us the whole night Tho' witnesses of horrors which bar all description.

I have said there was an order of Council the 18th in the evening for embarking the Company's Treasure, Books and the Ladies. On recollection I think the Company's Books was not part of the Order. My mistake arose from a short conversation after Council between Mr Manningham and myself on the propriety of carrying also the Company's Books and essential papers off with him when he went to conduct the Ladies. Whether the Treasure or Books were embarked I cannot say, the late President and Gentlemen below who have assumed the Title and Authority of Agents for the Company's Affairs are the best Judges. After the President's departure, I made inquiry after the Sub-Treasurer and Keys of the Treasury, but neither one or the other was to be found. I intended on the first recess to have opened the Treasury to have been satisfied in this particular; but that recess never came.

I have said the enemy was repulsed at Baag Bazar Redoubt by Ensign Piccard and 25 men, but forgot to mention his being reinforced by Lieutenant Blagg and 30 Men; I also omitted that the *St George*, Captain Hague, and another Small Vessell commanded by Captain Campbell, was stationed up the River to cover that Post, at the attack of which, the enemy lost at least 800 Men from the fire of the Detachment on shore and from the Ships which obliged them to abandon their design of entering at that quarter which they never attacked again.

I have more than once made mention of the want of Ammunition as one principal cause of the loss of the Settlement, but beg leave to remark here, that had the quantity of Ammunition remaining be ever so great, it would have been morally impossible to have defended the Fort another day, circumstanced as we were. For (not to mention the particulars of less moment, such as some of our Dutch Soldiers being drunk, and a few worthless low fellows amongst the Militia, seditious and troublesome) our Garrison by the numbers killed, wounded and deserted became so reduced that the duty and action was continual and without relief, and the strength of both Officers and Soldiers were in a manner quite exhausted. I should not have added any trouble to your Honour &c. on this subject, had I not been informed that a pompous account of the Ammunition in Fort William when taken, has been transmitted to your Presidency and to my Honorable Masters, by some whom I am sorry to say must in this case have been glad to act on leveling principles, or they would have been a little more circumspect in transmitting the Report, which I hear was taken from an old Invalid Sergeant of the Train named Myers, and a Motross of the Train named Miller, which account as I am further informed was given by those people as the whole of the Ammunition contained in the Factory at the beginning of the Siege, and indeed must be so from the nature of things, tho' I hear it is transmitted to your Honour &c. as an account of Ammunition &c. remaining in the Fort when surrendered. This I will suppose was by mistake, for I would not be thought to insinuate it could possibly be done with design. The whole quantity of the Company's Powder in the Magazine of the Fort was at the beginning 740 maunds only; and some quantity belonging to the Ships which as usual on their importing were deposited there, and a double quantity redelivered to them when sent on Service to Tanner's Fort and to Cover Baag Bazar Redoubt. Four Ships I think to Tanner's, and two to Baag Bazar. The former Cannonaded that Post as I remember a day and night, and sent for a supply of powder which they received, and none was returned back from any of them. Add to this, the powder expended in the number of Shells thrown, the continued Cannonading from the advanced Batteries to the Northward and Eastward as well as from the Fort the 18th, and from the Fort only on the 19th and 20th, and it will appear impossible there could be many hours Ammunition in the Fort when surrendered. Add to this, the Captain of the Train's report in Council the 18th which must surely carry greater weight and conviction with it, than that of the people abovementioned, supposing their Report to have been as transmitted, to corroborate which report of Captain L. Witherington, I beg leave to mention another circumstance that during the Enemy's three attacks made to the Northward in the morning of the 20th, Mr Bailley and the Captain of the Train came to me and pressed my then throwing out a Flag of Truce, the latter telling me there was no powder left, but what was wet; I asked him whether there was not enough for a few hours. He replied that was the utmost; I then told him the enemy should be first convinced we could repulse them, and that a Flag of Truce would be afterwards thrown out with a much better prospect of success. The small quantity of powder at the beginning was the reason we could not think of blowing up the house round us, and to have pulled them down would have been two months' work—pucca houses near as strong as the Fort itself. Powder we made every day more or less untill the place was actually invested, but it was wet and useless, and a dependence on some Shells filled with this powder had like to have been the loss of the North-West Bastion the morning of the 20th not one of them taking. Thus on the whole I may aver to your Honour &c. that not one article in the account of Ammunition transmitted you, said to be in the Fort at the time we surrendered is true, save that of the wet powder of which I believe there was about 100 maunds.

Accompanying this are the several Lists promissed in mine of the 17th Ultimo, they are as correct as I at present can make them, and are deficient in nothing but in the number of those of the Militia and others who quitted the Fort the 18th and 19th, whose names I cannot obtain untill I join our scattered Colony below, which I intend doing in a day or two if I can attempt the thing with any degree of safety having advice that Major Kilpatrick is arrived on the *Delawar* with a Reinforcement of 250 men.

I am with much respect
HOUGHLY, HON'BLE SIR & SIRS
3rd August 1756. Your most obedient humble Servant
J. Z. HOLWELL.

A List of those who quitted Fort William the 18th and 19th June 1756.

Governour Drake, 19th June
Col. Manningham, 18th do.
Lieut.-Col. Frankland, 18th do.
Mr Mackett, 2nd Capt. Militia, 19th do.
Captn Minchin, Commdt, 19th do.
Captn Grant, Adjt.-Genl., 19th do.
Rev. Mr Mapletoft, Capt Lieut. Ma 19th do.
Chas. O'Hara, Ensn & Lieut. Train, 19th do
Henry Wedderburn, Lieut., Mila 19th do.
Chas. Douglas, Ensn Mila 19th do.
Thos. Holmes, Lieut. Mila 18th do.
Wilm Sumner, . . . 18th do.
Robt Halsey Baldrick, Ensn Mila 19th do.

Volunteers.

Mr Wm Ellis . . . 19th June
Mr Wm Billers.
Mr Wm Rider . . . 18th June
Mr Ascan Senior.
Mr Wm Orr.
Mr Francis Vasmer . . 19th June.
Mr Robert Leicester.
Mr Stephen Page.
Mr Wm Tooke.
Mr Francis Charlton.
Mr — Champion. . . . 19th June
Capt Lodwick Lord, Wounded.
Captn—Campbell . . . 19th June

Militia.

Mr Ed Holden Cruttenden.
Mr Anselm Beaumont
Captn David Rannie
Mr William Nixon
Mr John Putham
Captn Nicholson & Officers
Capto Austin & do.
Mr Willm Lindsay.
Captn Whatmong & Officers
Captn Young & do.
Mr Margas.
Mr Pyfinch
Captn Walmly
Willm Burton
Monsieur Albert
Monsieur Carvalho
Mr John Wood
Captn Laing

Henry Sumus
Captn Hugh Bailley
Edward Ridge
William Elves
Daniel Whaley
William Ling
John Strousenburgh
John Helmsted &c.

Doctors.

William Fullerton

A List of those smothered in the Black Hole the 20th June 1756 at night, exclusive of the English, Dutch and Portugueze Soldiers, whose names I am unacquainted with.

Messrs. Edwd Eyre } Esqrs.
Willm Bailey }
Rev. Mr. Jervas Bellamy
Messrs. Jenks
„ Revely
Law
Valicourt
Jebb
Coales
Toriano
E. Page
Grubb
Street
Harod
Johnston
Ballard
N. Drake
Carse
Knapton
Goslin
Bing
Dodd
Dalrymple
Captns Clayton, Comdt
Buckanon.
Witherington
Lieuts. Bishop
Hays
Blagg
Simson
Bellamy, *Junior*
Ensigns Piccard
Scott
Hastings
Chas. Wedderburn
Serjeant Major Dumbleton, Ensn Militia
Mr. Atkinson
Abraham }
Cartwright } Serjt Militia,
Blean }
Mr. Cary
„ Stephenson
„ Guy
„ Porter
Captain Hunt
„ Parker
Stepn Page
Captn. Osborne
Captain Purnel
Mr. Calker
„ Bendall, &c.

A List of those who came alive out of the Black Hole the 21st in the morning.

Messrs. Holwell
Court
Cooke
Waleott
Lushington
Burdet
Captn Mills
„ Dickson
and
8 or 9 Soldiers & Gunners.

A List of Officers killed and wounded after the desertion of the Governour &c.

Captn Lieut. Smith, killed,
„ Pickering, one of the Captains of the Points at the Great Guns—killed.
Lieut. Simpson—wounded.
„ Talbot—wounded and died of his wounds the 21st in the morning.
Ensign Piccard—wounded.
„ Scott—ditto.
„ Coales of the Militia—wounded.
„ Carstairs—wounded at the Jail the 18th; As also Monsieur La Beaume who commanded at that Post.

Ordered that the Secret Committee be referred to these Minutes in our next address for a copy of Holwell's Letters, agreeably to that Gentleman's desire, and that Answers wrote to Mr. Drake &c. Gentlemen at Fulta, and to Major Kilpatrick, when the general instructions for the intended Expedition are prepared.

Mr. Maningham arrived this morning from Bengal.

Wednesday the 29th September 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE PRESENT

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., *Governour, President,*
ROBERT CLIVE,
HENRY POWNEY,
WILLIAM PERCEVAL,
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
ROBERT ORME,
ROBERT PALK.

Charles Watson Esq., Rear Admiral of the Red and George Peacock Esq., Rear Admiral of the White, likewise present at the request of the Committee.

Discourse being had concerning the intended Expedition to Bengall, M Watson recommends that it be conducted in all respects like that to Gheria.

It is to be observed in regard to the Expedition to Gheria, First, that Mr Watson and Mr Pocock were joined with Colonel Clive and Mr Hough in a Commission for the Conduct of the Expedition. And, Secondly, that every thing taken at Gheria even to the Guns and Ammunition was appropriated to the benefit of the Captors, although the Company was at the whole expense of fitting out the Armament, and also of repairing the damage done to his Majesty's Ships.

How far the Gentlemen at Bombay were right to consent to such terms the Committee do not take upon them to determine, but they proceed to offer to Mr Watson's consideration several reasons why the present intended Expedition to Bengall ought not to be conducted in the same manner.

With regard to the first Point (the powers to be given Mr Watson) the Committee represent to Mr Watson, that the present Expedition to Bengall is intended for the reestablishment of the Company's Ancient Settlements in that Province, upon the former, or if possible, a better footing; that this must be done by Treaty with the Nabob, and that this Treaty which regards only the Company's Rights and Priviledges can properly be conducted by none but the, Company's Representatives at Bengal. The Military part of the Expeditione by the success of which it is hoped the Nabob will be brought to enter upon such a Treaty, should undoubtedly be conducted by a Council of War composed of Officers of the Sea or Land Forces, or both, according to the nature of the undertaking; but the Civil part, such as the making of Treaties for the reestablishment of the Company's Rights and Priviledges, and the regulating the Affairs of their former Settlements, the Committee judge can belong only to the Civil Servants of the Company.

Mr Watson then desired to know plainly what Powers he was to be vested with, and what services we should request of him to perform upon the present Expedition; to which the Committee answered that the Powers he had from His Majesty were quite sufficient, and that they should only request of him to perform such Services as may be recommended to him by the Company's Representatives in Bengall.

With regard to the Second Point (the distribution of Captures) is to be considered that the present Expedition to Bengall is fitted out, like that to Gheria, at the vast and sole expence of the Company, but with different views; that to Gheria was to root out a Robber who had long invested the Seas and so to give a future Security to their Trade, and by the Capture of his places to acquire new possessions to themselves. This to Bengall is intented for the recovery of the Ancient Settlements, Rights and Priviledges of the East India Company, which have suddenly been wrested from them, and to reimburse by reprizals, if all other means prove ineffectual, the immense loss they have so recently sustained in their own property. The Committee therefore think themselves obliged to exert their utmost efforts to secure to the Company that immediate possession of their own Settlements that may be retaken, and such portion of the reprizals that may be made upon the Moors, as His Majesty shall be pleased to adjudge to them. Accordingly the Committee now deliver to M^r^ Watson in writing the representations resolved on last Committee, as follows:

*1^st^*—As it may be supposed that one or more of the Men of War will be sent before Calcutta, and the Moors driven out by her Cannon, it is requested of M^r^ Watson that he will land Colonel Clive with the Company's Troops or a part of them, to take possession again of that Settlement, and whatever may be found within the Company's Limits as usually understood, from Perrin's Garden down to Surman's Garden, for the sole benefit of the Company, which request it is hoped will be thought reasonable as the Company have suffered an immense loss, and are to be at the whole expence of the Expedition.

*2^nd^*—Should it be judged proper by the Company's Representatives after the taking of Calcutta to request the assistance of the Squadron to attack Hughley or any other Moors Town, or to make reprizals in the River upon Moors Vessels, it is hoped it will not be thought unreasonable that Commissaries be appointed on both sides to dispose of the Prizes that may be so taken, their produce to be deposited untill it shall be determined by His Majesty in what manner it should be distributed; A gratuity to be given for the present at the discretion of the Council of War to the Petty Officers and Private Men, and to be deducted out of the portion which may be allotted to them.

M^r^ Watson assured the Committee that for his own part he was ready to give up all private advantages for the good of the Company and the Publick; but as every man in the Squadron was also concerned, the proposal must be laid before a Council of War, which he would summon immediately and communicate their determination without loss of time.

M^r^ Watson then enquired of the Committee what number of Men was intended to be sent on the Expedition to Bengal, in answer to which the Committee informed him their design was to send four hundred Military Rank and File, and one hundred Train, besides the Detachment of the Regiment now on board the Squadron consisting of about two hundred Men; but in case that Detachment did not proceed, then that it was their intention to send six hundred Military Rank and File, and one hundred Train; and further that it was designed to send as many Seapoys as conveyances could be found for.

M^r^ Watson acquaints the Committee that the five hundred Europeans only could be distributed on board the several Ships of the Squadron over and above the Detachment of the Regiment.

Agreed to embark the Europeans on His Majesty's Ships, and to send by the Company's Ships Marlborough and Walpole all the Seapoys they can take on board and to make use of any future conveyances that may offer for the embarkation of more Seapoys.

The Committee then requested of M^r^ Watson to land the Detachment of the Regiment in case application should be made to him by the Company's Representatives at Bengal, which he readily promises, with the proviso that he shall himself see an absolute necessity for their service on Shore and is assured that they shall be reimbarked upon his call.

Lastly the Committee debated with M^r.^ Watson concerning the Regulation of the Councils of War that may be found necessary to be held in Bengal and the Presidency of the several Officers, in order to prevent future altercations on that head which might interrupt the Service; accordingly the following Articles were found in concert and with the unanimous consent of Admiral Watson, Admiral Pocock, Colonel Clive and the whole Committee.

1^st.^ It is proposed that at all Councils of War held on board His Majesty's Ships, the Commanding Officer of the Ships shall preside, and call to his Assistance such other Captains of the Squadron as he shall see proper, together with Colonel Clive and any other Field Officer.

2^d.^ That at all Councils of War held on Shore Colonel Clive shall preside, and call to his assistance such Field Officers as he shall see proper, together with the Captains of such part of the Squadron as are employed on the joint Service. This is understood to be in the absence of any Flag Officer.

The two Articles being delivered to Mr. Watson in writing, he acquainted the Committee he should lay them before the Council of War; and then Admiral Watson and Admiral Pocock withdrew.

Letter from Captain Maskelyne, Commanding Arcot Fort, read, advising of Ensign Kerr's march for Madras, with fifty of the best men of his Garrison, and remarking that those who remain are chiefly Recruits.

The President at the same time acquainted the Committee that upon application from Captain Maskelyne for leave to proceed with the intended Detachment for Bengal, in consideration of his Rank, being one of the oldest Captains, and of his being long deprived of an opportunity of going on service during the last troubles by being a Prisoner of War, he had permitted him to come to Madras for that purpose, and directed the eldest Officer to take charge of Arcot.

The President further acquaints the Committee, that the Cowles for the mortgaged Countries of seven Maganums, and Manamungulum expiring the 31st July last, he has made the necessary enquiries in order to get the most advantageous offers for the new Cowles, and that at length Mahomed Ayar Cawn had offered nineteen thousand (19,000) Pagodas for one year's rent of the seven Maganums, and thirteen thousand (13,000) Pagodas for one year's rent of Manamungulum, which, altho' one thousand Pagodas less for each Cowle than before, are nevertheless the President represents the best offers that can be got, and he desires the opinion of the Committee whether they should be accepted.

Agreed that the said offers be accepted.

Resolved that Mr. Manningham be desired to attend the Committee tomorrow morning, that the Proceedings and Resolutions relative to the Bengal Expedition may be communicated to him, and that we may learn from him the more particular informations to which we are referred by the Gentlemen at Fulta.

GEORGE PIGOT,
ROBERT CLIVE,
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
HENRY POWNEY,
ROBERT ORME,
WILLM. PERCEVAL,
ROBT. PALK,

Thursday the 30th September 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE PRESENT.

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., *Governour*, *President*,
ROBERT CLIVE,
HENRY POWNEY,
WILLIAM PERCEVAL,
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
ROBERT ORME,
ROBERT PALK.

* * * * * * *

Letter this instant received from Admiral Watson, opened and read as follows:

To the President and Members of the Secret Committee of Fort St. George.

GENTLEMEN,

In consequence of your representations to me yesterday, I have assembled a Council of War, who are of opinion no answer can be made with propriety 'till you declare who you deem to be the Company's Representatives at Bengal. I therefore desire you will please to send an answer immediately as the Council are waiting.

FORT S$^{T.}$ GEORGE,
30th September 1756.

I am Gentlemen,
Your most obedient humble Servant,

CHARLES WATSON.

As M^{r} Watson in Committee yesterday recommended the Expedition should be conducted on the same footing as that to Gheria, it is imagined that the tendency of the enquiry in his above letter must be to learn whether it is designed that he himself shall be one of the Representatives in the same manner as he was joined in the Commission at Gheria. The Committee therefore think it sufficient to return him for answer that only Company's Servants can be esteemed their Representatives. A letter was immediately wrote, signed, and sent to M$^{r.}$ Watson as follows:

To CHARLES WATSON, Esq., Rear Admiral of the Red, and Com$^{r.}$ in Chief of His Majesty's Squadron in India.

SIR,

The servants of the Company must doubtless, and can alone represent their Masters in Bengal on all occasions relating to their affairs; and it is to the Representations of these servants that we shall at your departure do ourselves the honour to desire the same attention from you that you have hitherto been pleased to shew to those made by ourselves.

FORT S$^{T.}$ GEORGE,
30th Sept$^{r.}$ 1756.

We are, Sir, Your most obedient
humble Servants,

GEORGE PIGOT & Committee.

Letter from MR. WYNCH READ, advising that he has sent the two Brass six-pounder field pieces that were at Fort St. David, and a Petard from Devecotah, by His Majesty's ship the Bridgewater, according the directions received from the President.

After 12 O'Clock received another letter from Mr. Watson as follows:

To the President and Members of the Secret Committee of Fort St. George.

GENTLEMEN,

I am sorry to trouble you again for what I thought was so plainly asked before. That the servants of the Company must represent their Masters Affairs in Bengal, I make no doubt; but since you oblige me to be so very explicit, I must desire you will let me know the names of those servants, whose representations you will, at my departure, desire me to attend to.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient humble Servant,

FORT S$^{r.}$ GEORGE,
30th Sept$^{r.}$ 1756.

CHARLES WATSON.

Agreed to defer returning any further answer to M$^{r.}$ Watson untill we have conferred with M$^{r.}$ Manningham, as it is not impossible but his representations may cause some change in our former Resolution concerning the Representatives in Bengal.

The Committee being met at two in the afternoon and Mr. Manningham being likewise present,

The whole Proceedings of the Council and Committee relative to the late misfortune at Bengal were Read. Mr. Manningham, in the course of this Reading made many observations in vindication of the President and Council of Fort William from the misconduct they are charged with in the several letters from Messrs. Watts and Collet, Holwell, &c. particularly on the subject of Mr. Drake's giving protection to the Nabob's Tenants, of his illtreating the Nabob's Messenger, and his not endeavouring to accommodate Affairs before they were carried to too great a length.

But as it may be impossible for Mr. Manningham to recollect at once all the circumstances he may have to offer in justification of the Gentlemen in the late Administration at Calcutta, and as the Committee will not besides pretend to be judges of their conduct, it is Agreed that a copy of all the advices received from Bengall, and of our Proceedings thereupon be delivered to Mr. Manningham that he may have an opportunity of committing his observations to writing in a more explicit manner for the information of the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, to whom alone the determination belongs.

More especially on the perusal of the Consultation of 21st September last, whereby Messrs. Clive, Smith and Walsh are appointed a Deputation for the General Conduct of the Expedition, to be instructed to receive a plan of Operations from the Gentlemen of the Council of Bengal for a Guide to their Correspondence with the Nabob, and yet empowered to act contrary to that Plan if they think necessary, Mr Manningham begs leave to offer his thoughts to the Committee—

First, this power to be lodged in the Deputies totally destroys all the authority of the President and Council of Fort William.

Secondly, that this Board are not empowered to give a Commission which shall destroy the Authority vested by the Company in the President and Council of Fort William, which Authority he thinks does and ought to subsist notwithstanding the loss, of the Place, and that he believes there is an Act of Parliament which would set this point clear.

Thirdly, that as it is not in the power of this Board to destroy the Authority of the President and Council of Fort William, so neither does he think it can be beneficial to the Company's Affairs; For that

Fourthly, it is to be imagined the Gentlemen who have so long resided in Bengal must be best acquainted with the Company's Interests in that Province with the temper of the People, and the views of the different Rajahs, &c., and for that reason best qualified for the Management of whatever may be undertaken there,

Fifthly, the destroying the Authority of the President and Council of Bengal would lessen them so much in the opinion of the Company's Servants, and of all the Natives, that they would be rendered absolutely incapable of ever again transacting the Company's Affairs in their different Stations; for which reason

Sixthly, It is probable that many of the Company's Servants would in such case chuse to quit and go to Europe in order to lay their case before the Court of Directors, by which means the Company's Affairs might be distressed for want of Servants.

The Committee pointed out to Mr Mannigham that the great inducement of the Council to nominate Deputies for the Conduct of the Expedition was, as appears by the Minutes of the said Consultation of 21st September, the absolute necessity of reserving to themselves the power of recalling a part of the Troops intended to be sent to Bengal, in case of a War with France, leaving only a sufficient Force for the Defence of Calcutta: whereas the Gentlemen of Bengal, was the power over the Troops to be lodged in them, might determine that the carrying on the War in Bengal, in case a full satisfaction had not before been obtained from the Nabob, was as necessary to the Company's welfare as the Defence of this Coast, and on that consideration they might resolve not to return us any of the Troops.

Mr Manningham thereupon assures the Committee that he is persuaded the Gentlemen of Bengal will have no objection to the leaving the whole Military authority with Colonel Clive, that they will pay the greatest attention to all that he may recommend during the course of the Expedition, and a particular regard to whatever may be represented to them from this Board. Finally, Mr Manningham desires that the Resolution of the 21st September may be reconsidered.

As Mr Manningham can have but one Voice in the Council of Bengal, his assurances cannot be deemed decisive; but in conformity to his request, it is agreed to take under deliberation the question whether the Resolution of the 21st September relating to the nomination of Deputies for the Conduct of the Bengal Expedition should be altered or not, and after a long debate in which on one side were urged the reasons entered in the Minutes of Consultation of 21st September, on the other the Arguments offered by Mr Mannigham, so many inconveniences and objections appeared on both sides, that the Committee could not at this Meeting deside upon the question in debate, and having sat 'till nine at night, it was Resolved to defer the determination untill to-morrow Morning.

GEORGE PIGOT,

ROBERT CLIVE,

STRINGER LAWRENCE,

HENRY POWNEY,

ROBERT ORME,

WILLM. PERCEVAL,

ROBT. PALK.

Friday the 1st October 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE PRESENT.

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ., *Governour, President,*

ROBERT CLIVE,

HENRY POWNEY,

WILLM. PERCEVAL,

STRINGER LAWRENCE,

ROBERT ORME,

ROBERT PALK.

The Committee having fully considered and maturely weighed the advantages and inconveniences of the Resolution of 21st September for Appointing Deputies from hence to conduct the intended Expedition, and the benefits of maintaining harmony and good understanding with the Gentlemen of Bengal being urged in addition to the Arguments and assurances offered yesterday by Mr Manningham, the question is now put whether the said Resolution shall be altered or not, and Resolved by the Majority that it be altered, and that Deputies, as therein mentioned, be not sent from hence.

Messrs. Clive and Orme abide by the opinion of the 21st September, and desire that their reasons for dissenting to the present Resolution may be entered on these Minutes as follow:

Arguments offered by Mr Orme on the subject of the present question, in which Argument Mr Clive declares he concurs.

Since Mr Manningham's arrival what has happened to alter the Resolution of the 21st September?

Mr Manningham says much to exculpate the Gentlemen of Calcutta from the two points which are principally esteemed the causes of the loss of that place.

1st, The protection of the Nabob's Tenants.

2nd, The not endeavouring to pacify him when incensed.

But an Inquisition of this kind is in my opinion not of the resort of this Board. It belongs to our Masters, the East India Company.

More Mr Manningham says, that the Resolutions of the Council held by us September 21st, take away all power from the Gentlemen at Fulta. That they are absolutely Governour in Council and are so by Act of Parliament, that for his own particular he shall quit the Service. That he believes the rest of the Gentlemen now of the Council will do so too, as Subordination and all good Government will be destroyed and no more respect be paid to them.

What weight is this to have with us?

Shall the Resolutions of Council of the 21st September be changed or no?

I cannot see any reason for altering the Resolution of the 21st September. A particular tenderness to avoid a determination on the authority of the Gentlemen of Calcutta has been exerted. The expedient of sending Deputies to give orders to the Military and to manage that part of the Company's property which shall be sent from this settlement to Bengall, was thought by me a mean between two extremes. The one extreme that of declaring the Authority of the Gentlemen of Bengal absolutely null and void. The other extreme, that of putting so large a force and so large a part of the Company's property entirely under the disposal of those Gentlemen. It is with great pain that I now find myself obliged to declare that when the majority of this Board were of opinion that the authority of the Gentlemen at Bengall was as valid as ever, I, with Coln Clive thought that opinion liable to objections and it is not minuted that that opinion was unanimous but that the Majority were of that opinion. I have never met with the particular Act of Parliament referred to by Mr Manningham and wait with impatience to see it. But I think I can venture to say that I know, had the Town and Garrison of Calcutta belonged to a Prince instead of the East India Company, the Governor from whom it had been taken could never have reassumed his Authority there untill the pleasure of his Prince had been known. And this Paralell for want of the Act of Parliament is all I have to judge by, and it influences my opinion so strongly, tho' perhaps erroneously, that were I in the case of the Gentlemen of Bengal, I would sooner reassume my lost Authority in Calcutta from the Donation of the Presidency of Madras, than I would assert it from my own authority, as in the one case I should proceed to act from the best authority I could get, and those who invested me with it would be responsible for the consequences 'till the pleasure of my Masters was known, whereas taking this Authority as an indisputable Right 'till that can be proved without contradiction, would subject me if it should not be proved at all, to immense difficulties. These reasons I beg leave to add to those which are fully explained in the Consultation of the 21st September as determining me to think there is no occasion to alter the plan there digested. As to the Authority of the Chiefs of Calcutta diminished by this Deputation as urged by Mr. Manningham, it concerns me extremely that it should be so. But in such complicated cases as these, many inconveniences must arise, and the Authority of those Gentlemen will never, in my opinion, be properly confirmed, till it is by the orders of our Hon'ble Masters from Europe.

Signed ROBERT CLIVE.

ROBERT ORME.

Then the Second Question was put; who are to be esteemed the proper Representatives of the Company in Bengal, and under whose Direction is the intended Expedition to be carried on.

Whereupon it was Resolved that Roger Drake Esq., Colonel Lawrence when present, Mr. Watts, Mr. Mannington and Mr. Becher, the Select Committee appointed for that Presidency, joined to Colonel Clive, are to be esteemed the proper Representatives of the Company at Bengal. That they be desired to form and deliver to Colonel Clive a Plan for the Conduct of such Treaty as they shall recommend to be made for the best advantage of the Company with the Nabob of Bengal; and also a Plan of such Military Operations as they would recommend to be carried on against the Nabob untill he shall consent to such Terms as the Treaty may be concluded on.

But as the Committee think they could not Answer putting the Company to the expence of fitting out this Armament without taking at the same time all possible precautions to secure to them equivalent Advantages, not merely the retaking of Calcutta but the re-establishment of their several former Settlements with all the Priviledges granted them by the Great Mogul, and as the Committee have an entire confidence in Colonel Clive's abilities and that he will exert his utmost endeavours to carry this our design into full execution, whereas it might not impossibly meet with interruptions or delays from divisions of opinion among the Bengal Gentlemen, if it depended totally on them.

Therefore it is agreed that Colonel Clive be further instructed to weigh and consider well the Plans he shall receive from the before mentioned Select Committee of Bengal, and in case he shall judge any part of them not to tend to the most speedy and efficacious method of obtaining the hoped for advantages to the Company, then to give his best advice on the subject to those Gentlemen, and in case their opinions should still differ, then finally to pursue those measures which he shall judge to be most for the Company's benefit, transmitting to us in a very explicit manner his reasons for such a Proceeding, which reasons shall be referred to the Court of Directors.

Thus the Committee are of opinion they have removed as far as in them lies all obstacles to the compleat execution of their intentions in sending this Armament to Bengal, supposing that a War is not declared with France; for upon the first news of such a declaration, we shall hold it absolutely necessary to recall all the Troops to the Coast, except so many as will be necessary for the immediate defence of Calcutta, esteeming the certain advantages of the Settlements and Inland Possessions of the Company on this Coast to be more worthy of attention than the uncertain hopes of regaining their Settlements in Bengal.

Therefore the Committee think it necessary to furnish Colonel Clive with Independent Powers on this head also, that in case upon the news of a War or other emergency it should be found necessary to recal a part of the Troops for the Defence of this Coast, and the Select Committee at Bengal should not think proper to return them upon our Representation, then that Colonel Clive do follow the orders of this Committee and proceed hither with such part of the Troops as shall be necessary leaving only as many as may be requisite for the Defence of Calcutta.

Messrs. Clive and Orme being asked whether they assent to the Resolutions made upon the Second Question, deliver in the following answer:

In answer to this question, we beg leave to refer to the 4th Article of the Plan of Instructions intended to be delivered to the Deputies then resolved to be sent, as entered in the Consultations of the Council held September 21st which says:

"That the Deputies be directed to re-establish the Gentlmen of Bengall in Calcutta as soon as Colonel Clive's success shall render it *proper*, and that they do, when the place is in a sufficient state of Security, put those Gentlemen in possession of all such part of the Company's effects as shall remain with them."

By this Resolution which Colonel Clive and Mr. Orme then agreed to with the rest of the Council, it appears that they had no objection to entrusting the Gentlemen of Calcutta, after the service of the Deputies to be sent was at an

end.

It is now determined that the Deputies shall not go; therefore Messrs Clive and Orme think as they did the 21st September that, in lieu of Deputies the Gentlemen of Bengal are to be empowered; and therefore as the Resolution of 21st September is laid aside, declare that they can think of no better expedient than that now resolved by the Majority of this Board.

At the same time they beg leave to recommend to the serious consideration of the Board, that the necessary measures to be taken that the Gentlemen of Bengal may enter into our Sentiments on the Seclusion of Plunder &c to the Company's use.

ROBERT CLIVE.

BOBERT ORME.

An answer to Mr. Watson's letter of the 30th September requiring the names of the persons whom we esteem to be the proper Representatives of the Company in Bengal, is now wrote conformably to the foregoing Resolution, and immediately sent to him as follows:

To Charles Watson Esq, Rear Admiral of the Red, and Comr in Chief of His Majesty's Squadron in India.

Sir,

Our time was taken up 'till 9 o'Clock last night in laying before Mr. Manningham, one of the Council of Bengal, the whole Proceedings relating to the intended Expedition. This morning the duty of the President and most of the Members of this Committee called them to attend the Quarter Sessions, which has debard'd us the pleasure of acquainting you a few hours sooner that we deem Roger Drake Esq., Colonel Lawrence, Mr. Watts, Mr. Manningham and Mr. Becher, or any part of them, joined to Colonel Clive, to be the proper Representatives of the Company in Bengal, and to whom we shall request you to pay the same attention as you have hitherto done to us.

Your most obedient humble Servts.,

GEORGE PIGOT & Committee,

GEORGE PIGOT,

Fort St George,

The 1st Octr 1756.

ROBERT CLIVE,

STRINGER LAWRENCE,

HENRY POWNEY,

ROBERT ORME,

Wm PERCEVAL,

ROBt PALK.

Tuesday the 5th Octr 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE PRESENT.

George Pigot Esq., *Governour, President,*
Robert Clive,
Henry Powney,
Willm Perceval
Stringer Lawrence,
Robert Orme,
Robert Palk,

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A Return of the Strength of the Troops ordered for Bengall.

Fort St. George, Octr 8th 1756.	Lt Colonel	Captains	Captn Lieuts	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Volunteers	Serjeants	Corporals	Drummers	Centinels	Bombardiers	Gunners	Mattropes	Total.
Train of Artillery	...	...	1	5	...	...	5	5	3	...	21	21	48	103
Grenadiers	...	1	...	1	2	2	8	6	4	94	...	...	...	112
Captn Maskelyne's	...	1	...	1	2	2	6	6	4	73	...	...	...	89
Captn Gaupp's	...	1	...	2	1	2	4	6	4	77	...	...	...	91
Captn Campbell's	...	1	...	1	2	1	6	6	4	73	...	...	...	89
Captn Callendar's	..	1	...	...	3	1	6	6	4	73	...	...	...	89
TOTAL	...	5	1	10	10	8	35	35	23	390	21	21	48	573

ROBERT CLIVE,
Lieut. Col.

N.B.—2 Captains 2 Lieutenants 4
2 Serjeant Majors, 1 Quarter Master Serjeant, 1 Corporal 4
and 12 Camp Colourmen not returned 12
in the body of the Return . . . . . — 20

593

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GEORGE PIGOT,
ROBERT CLIVE,
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
HENRY POWNEY,
ROBERT ORME,
WM PERCEVAL,
ROBERT PALK,

Wednesday the 13th Octr 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE PRESENT.

George Pigot Esq., *Governour, President,*
Robert Clive,
Henry Powney,
Willm Perceval,
Stringer Lawrence,
Robert Orme,
Robert Palk,

* * * * * * *

To Robert Clive, Esq.,

Sir,

Judging the Re-establishment of the Company's Settlements at Bengal to be of the highest importance to their welfare, we have requested of Admiral Watson to proceed thither with the whole Squadron under his Command.

We have embarked on the several Ships of the Squadron all Officers included 528 Military and 109 Train, and on the Company's Ships *Walpole* and *Malboro'* with the *Boneta* Ketch and those on board His Majesty's Ships 940 Seapoys and 160 Lascars with twelve field Pieces, one Haubitzer, and a necessary quantitiy of Ammunition, and reposing full confidence in your abilities we have appointed you to be Commander in Chief of the Land Forces to be employed on the present Expedition.

You are therefore to proceed with this Command to Bengal. In the River you will probably meet with the most of the Gentlemen of the late Council of whom the following have been this year apointed by the Secret Committee of the Hon'ble East India Comany to be a Select Committee for the management of all Matters relative to the Protection or Preservation of the Company's Estate, Rights and Priviledges, viz$^{t.}$ Roger Drake Esq, Col$^{n.}$ Lawrence when present, Messr$^{s.}$ Watts, Manningham and Becher.

To these Gentlemen we have addressed a letter which we now deliver you together with a copy thereof, by which you will observe our intentions in fitting out this Armament, and this letter will serve to guide you in acting up to the Spirit of these Intentions.

Conformably to these Instructions we have desired the Gentlemen of the Select Committee appointed as before mentioned to form and deliver you a plan of such Treaty, as they would recommend to be made for the best advantage of the Company with the Nabob of Bengal, and likewise a Plan of such Military Operations, as they shall judge most likely to compel the Nabob to consent to the Terms of the said Treaty. They will probably desire your presence at their Councils. We need not recommend to you to assist them with your best advice, and we most earnestly require you to endeavour to preserve a good harmony throughout.

If any part of the Plans you shall receive from the Gentlemen before mentioned shall appear to you not to lead by the most speedy and efficacious way to the obtaining the hoped for advantage to the Company you will explain very particularly your sentiments to those Gentlemen, pointing out to them such alteration as you think will better answer the purposed end, in which alteration we flatter ourselves they will then occur. If not, you are empowered, and we do hereby empower you to pursue such measures as you shall judge most conducive to the Company's benefit, transmitting to them, and to us, in the most particular manner your Reasons for so doing.

Our last advices from Europe have given us too much reason to fear there will be but a very short time for the Execution of this Project, it being our Resolution, should we receive News of a War with France, immediately to recal you, and the greatest part of the Troops for the Defence of this Coast. Upon the receipt of such Orders from us you are to leave so many Men as you judge necessary for the immediate Defence of Calcutta, and proceed hither with the rest without loss of time, notwithstanding any thing that may be urged to the contrary by the Gentlemen of Bengal, for in such circumstances we cannot but regard the certain Possession of the Establishments under our Authority on this Coast, and in this Country, to be an object of too great importance to the Company, not to employ our utmost attention. Should our orders for returning arrive with you before His Majesty's Ships have left Bengal, you are to request Admiral Watson or the Commander of the Ships that may be there to bring the Troops to Madras; but should none of His Majesty's Ships remain with you, then you are to apply to the President in Council for such of the Company's Ships as may be there, or employ such private Vessels as may be procurable.

Inclosed is a Copy of a Council of War, held here by the Officers of His Majesty's Squadron the 30th September and 2nd October concerning the disposal of what may be taken from the Moors, with Copies of three letters which passed between M^{r} Watson and us on the same subject. As far as the shares of the Sea Forces are distributed we consent that the shares of such part of the Land Forces, as by their Rank are to share with those sea forces, be distributed also. In case Reprizals should be made, you are to consider jointly with

Mr. Watson, and the Bengal Committee of the appointment of proper Commissaries to take charge of ye portion that is to be deposited.

We have appointed Mr. John Walsh to be Paymaster of the Forces to be employed on the present Expedition, and Mr. Thos. Maunsell, Commissary. They are to act all things according to your Orders, but we have delivered the Paymaster for his guidance a copy of our Military Regulations relating to pay, batta, &c, and a Letter of Instructions of which herewith is a Copy.

Conformably to the Paragraph of our Hon'ble Masters' Commands therein referred to, no batta, or extraordinary Allowance should be given to the Troops in any of their Garrisons, but as the state in which their Settlements at Bengal may be found is quite uncertain we leave it to you to regulate this in such a manner, as you shall see reasonable. When their Settlements are re-established and the Inhabitants returned, so that Provisions become Plenty as usual, this order of our Hon'ble Masters must be strictly observed.

It has been customary here to diet the non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers in the Field, instead of Batta, and this has always been done by contract. The last Contract was 4 fanams a day for each man, but as Provisions have generally been much cheaper and more plenty at Bengal than on this Coast, we hope you will be able to contract for a less price. We leave it to you to settle this to the best advantage of the Company.

The Military Stores embarked for the service of this Expedition, according to the inclosed Lists, are under the charge of the respective Officers, who are accountable to you. You will give them orders to be particularly careful that none are lost or damaged, and cause very exact monthly accounts to be delivered you of the Receipts and Issues. You are to give copies of the Lists of Stores to the Committee at Bengal.

On the Ships *Malborough* and *Walpole* we have laden Arcot Rupees 400,000 (two Lacks on each Ship) consigned to you for the Service of the Expedition. Out of this you are to make such Issues to the Paymaster as you shall see necessary, and in case you should have occasion for a further supply, you are to apply to the President and Council there, and if they should not be able to furnish you, you have liberty to draw on us.

You are to cause a General Muster to be made monthly by the Commissary of all the Forces, Lascars, Artificers, Cooleys and others in the Company's pay. We desire you will be present at these Musters as often as your business will permit, and when you cannot be present yourself, depute such person as you shall think proper. These Musters should be taken as near as possible to the end of every month, because they are to be a Guide to the Paymaster for his Issues of Pay, and the Commissary is to transmit Copies of the Muster Rolls to us by the most secure opportunities that offer.

We deliver you herewith a letter from the President to the Nabob of Bengal, and a Letter from Salabut Jung to the same Nabob, both which you are to transmit to him at such time as you shall judge most proper. Inclosed are likewise Translations of the two Letters for your perusal.

We deliver you likewise a copy attested by the Caugee of Delly of the Mogul's Phirmaund to the Company for the Possession of their several Settlements, and a Book containing a Translation not only of the Phirmaund, but also of the orders sent from Delly at the same time to the Officers of the several Subah's enjoining them to put the Company in possession and permit them to enjoy the Priviledges granted by the said Phirmaund. By this Book you will be particularly informed what the Company have a right to pretend for in the Province of Bengal, which will be a great assistance in your Negociations with the Nabob. When you return to the Coast you are to leave both the Persian Copy and the Book of Translations in the hands of the Select Committee at Bengal.

We inclose Colonel Adlercron's Warrant, empowering you, or the Commander-in-Chief of the Expedition for the time being, to appoint Courts

Martial, and persons to officiate as Judge Advocate. With our wishes for you success We are

Sir

Your most obedient Servants,

GEORGE PIGOT,

Fort St. George,

HENRY POWNEY,

13th October 1756.

WILLM. PERCEVAL,

STRINGER LAWRENCE,

ROBERT ORME,

ROBEBT PALK.

To Mr. John Walsh.

Sir,

We have appointed you to be Paymaster of the Forces to be employed on the Expedition to Bengal, and we have ordered a Copy of the Book of Military Regulations to be delivered you for your guidance.

In that Book you will see the Regulations for the Pay and Batta of Officers and Soldiers, Seapoys, Lascars, &c., but as some of those Regulations are stated in Pagodas and Fanams, you are to observe the following Instructions for reducing them into Rupees, the Currency of Bengal.

The Pay of the Military is settled by the Company in £ Sterling; at Bengal it is to be turned into Rupees according to the Bengal Establishment.

The Lascars have been paid here in Pagodas. You are to value the Pagoda at 8 shs., and reduce that into Rupees according to the Bengal Establishment, and you are to advance the Seapoys and Lascars three months Pay, besides a Gratuity of twelve Rupees a man.

The Pay and contingent charges of the whole Detachment from the 1st of October is to be carried to the Account of the Expedition, and you are to transmit accounts monthly or as often as you have opportunity to the Presidency of Bengal as well as to us.

We have agreed that Colonel Clive be furnished with a Table at the Company's Expence in lieu of Batta.

The Batta of the other Officers is already settled in Rupees. It is to commence from the day of their embarking and you are to advance them two months Batta.

The Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers we have agreed with Mr. Doidge to diet on board at the rate of 6 Fanams a day for each man. His bill is to be paid accordingly, on your arrival at Bengal, at the rate of eleven fanams for a Rupee.

When the Troops take the field the Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers will be dieted by contract at such rate as Colonel Clive shall settle.

For the diet of the Sepoys and Lascars on board, we have also agreed with Mr. Doidge at the rate of 4 Fans. a day each man, for which his bill is to be paid at Bengal at the rate of 11 Fans. for a Rupee.

When the Seapoys and Lascars take the Field they are to be paid Batta, according to the Book of Military Regulations, reckoning the Fanams at the rate of twelve to a Rupee as has been always practised here.

Enclosed is copy of a Paragraph of the Company's Orders to this Presidency by which you will observe that no extraordinary allowance is to be paid to the troops while in any of the Company's Garrisons. But as it will be some time before the Settlements in Bengal can be re-established on their former footing, Colonel Clive may find it necessary to deviate from this rule, on the Scarcity or dearness of Provisions.

Mr. Thomas Maunsell proceeds in quality of Commissary. All the Military, Seapoys, Lascars, Artificers, Cooleys, in short every man who is to receive pay from the Company, must be regularly mustered monthly by the Commissary in presence of the Commanding Officer or the person by him deputed, and according to that Muster Roll, which is to be delivered to you properly certified you are to issue the pay, taking care that all casualties are regularly noted according to the Book of Military Regulations, which should be done by inserting the names of the Military, Seapoys, Lascars, &c., in a Book kept on purpose, and noting opposite to their names the Deaths, Promotions, Desertions, &c., which may happen.

Lastly you are to follow all the Orders you shall receive from the Committe at Fort St. George for the time being or the Commander in Chief of the Expedition. Dated in Fort St. George, the 13th October 1756.

To MR. THOMAS MAUNSELL.

SIR,

We have appointed you to be Commissary of the Forces employed in the Expedition to Bengal.

You are to muster the whole Detachment Military, Artillery, Seapoys, Lascars, Artificers, Cooleys, in short all that receive Pay from the Company, monthly, if time and place will permit, and to take notice of such as are sick, wounded, deserted, dead, or absent without leave. You are to deliver a copy of the said Muster Roll signed by the Commanding Officer or the person he shall depute, and by yourself, to the Paymaster of the Forces; and to transmit a Copy, ascertained in the same manner, to us, by such secure opportunities as shall offer.

And as these Muster Rolls are to be a Guidance to the Paymaster in his issues of Pay, the said Musters are to be taken as near as possible to the end of every month.

Lastly you are to follow all such orders as you shall receive from the Committee of Fort St George for the time being, and to give due obedience to the Commander in Chief of the Expedition. Dated in Fort St. George, the 13th October 1756.

To CAPTAIN THOMAS FOWLER, Commander of Ship Walpole.

SIR,

You are hereby required to follow the Directions of Admiral Watson untill you shall receive contrary orders from him.

The same to Captain Alexr. McCleod of Ship *Malboro'*.

Ordered that the several Packets to be closed and delivered immediately. The following are Lists of the Papers under cover to Colonel Clive, and to the Gentlemen of the Committee at Bengal.

List of the Packet to the Select Committee at Bengall, dated 13th October 1756.

1. Committee's letter to the Committee at Bengall.
2. Copy of the Council of War, and letters relating to the Distribution of Prize Money
3. Copy of the Nabob of Bengall's letter to the President.
4. Copy of the President's letter to the Nabob of Bengall.
5. Copy of the President's letter to the Nabobs Perenea, Dacca and Cuttack
6. Copy of Salabut Jung's letter to the Nabob of Bengall.
7. Copy of the Europe Ships Orders.

List of the Packet to Robert Clive, Esq.

Where entered.		1756.
Proceedgs. Com 13th Octr	1. Colonel Clives Instructions dated	13th October.
Pros. Com 13th Oct.	2. Copy of the Committee's letter to Admiral Watson	do.
Pros. Com 13th Oct.	3. Copy of the Committees letter to the Comittee at Bengal . . .	do.
Pros. Com 13th Oct.	4. Copy of the Comittee's Instructions to Mr Walsh, Paymr . . .	do.
Pros. Com 13th Oct.	5. Copy of the Comittee's Instructions to Mr Maunsells Com . . .	do.
Do. 4th & 5th Oct.	6. Copy of the Council of War, and letters relating to the Distribution Prize money	do.
Pros. Com 13th Oct.	7. Copy of the Europe Ships Orders .	do.
Consultatn 17th August.	8. Copy of the Nabob of Bengall's letter to the President.	
Country correspdce No 226.	9. Copy of Salabut Jung's letter to the Nabob of Bengal.	
Pros. Com 13th Oct.	10. Copy of the President's letter to the Nabob of Bengal.	
Pros. Com 13th Oct.	11. Copy of the President's do. to the Nabobs of Perenea, Dacca and Cuttack.	
	12. Copy of the 68th para. of the Company's letter dated 31st Jany. 1756, relating to the allowances of the Military sent from one Settlement to another.	
	13. Colonel Adlercron's Warrant empowering the Commander in Chief of the Expedition to Bengal to appoint Courts Martial and Judge Advocates.	
	14. Commission appointing Robert Clive Esq., to be Commander in Chief of the Troops employed on the Expedition to Bengal, and in case of his death to James Killpatrick Esq.	
Pros. Comr 23rd Jany. & 6th May.	15. Military Regulations to be added to the Book.	
	16. Invoice of Medecines and 2 lacks of Rupees per Walpole.	
	17. Invoice of 2 Lacks of Rupees per Malborough.	
	18. Bill of Lading for the Rupees.	
	Delivered to Colonel Clive apart.	
	19. Persian copy under the Seal of the Caugee of Delly of the Mogul's Phirmaund to the Company.	
	20. A Book containing a Translation of the Phirmaund and of several Orders issued at the same time by the Mogul in favor of the English.	
	21. A Sealed Bag containing a letter from Salabat Jung to the Nabob of Bengal.	
	22. A Sealed Bag containing a letter from Nabob Anaverdy Cawn to the Nabob of Bengal.	
	23. A Packet containing ten letters (of the same Tenor and date) from the President to the Nabob of Bengal.	
	24. A Packet containing a letter from Colonel Clive to the Nabob of Bengal, also copy of that letter and of Colonel Clive's letter to Salabat Jung.	
	25. A Packet containing letters from the President to the Nabobs of Perenia, Dacca, and Cuttack, all of the same Tenor and date.	
	26. A Packet containing, vizt. List of Military Stores for the Service of the Expedition. List of Engineers do. List of Artillery do. List of Ordnance and Ordnance Stores.	

Letter to the Secret Committee of the East India Company to be sent by the Danish Ship from Tranquebar, Read in its fair Copy and Signed.

Ordered that it be immediately dispatched, and the President is desired to write to the Governor of Tranquebar requesting him to give Orders to the Captain of the Ship to send it ashore by any English Boat that may come off to him in the channel.

GEORGE PIGOT,
HENRY POWNEY,
ROBERT ORME,
WILLIAM PERCEVAL,
ROBERT PALK.

16th This morning Vice Admiral Watson sailed from this Road for Bengal with the following ships under his Command, vizt, His Majesty's Ships *Kent, Cumberland, Tiger, Salisbury, Bridgwater* and *Blaze*, (Fireship), and the Honorable Companys Ships *Walpole* and *Malboro* having on Board Lieutenant Colonel Clive with a Detachment of Land Forces.

Tuesday the 9th Nov 1876.

AT A COMMITTEE PRESENT.

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ., *Governor, President,*
STRINGER LAWRENCE,
ROBERT ORME,
ROBERT PALK,
HENRY POWNEY,
WILLIAM PERCIVAL.

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Letter from Roger Drake Esq., &c Gentlemen at Fulta, Read as follows:

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT Esqr., President and Governor &c Council of Fort St. George.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

Inclosed is duplicate of our address under date the 18th Ultimo, since which we have received advices from Cassimbuzar that we think proper to communicate to your Honour &c. with our Sentiments and Resolution thereon.

Mr. Warren Hastings, one of the Hon'ble Company's Covenanted Servants at Cazimbuzar and now detained at that Place by the Nabob writes Major Kilpatrick to the following purport, that Suraja Dowlat is no longer Subah of Bengal which is conferred upon the King of Delly's eldest son, that the Nabob of Purnea (Sonkat Jung) has received a Phirmaund from the King investing him with the Nabobship of Bengal Bahar and Orixa under his son, and great preparations are making at Muxadavad for a War with Purnea in consequence of the foregoing appointments, that the Nabob of Bannaras has sent 6,000 Horsemen to the assistance of Sonkat Jung, that most of the Rajahs whose Territories lie near Purnea have deserted Surajah Dowlat, and that on the 29th of last month a letter arrived from the Dutch Chief at Patna with advice that the King, with his son and Vizier was upon his march this way at the head of a Formidable Army, having crossed the River Jumna 20 days before with an intention first to reduce these Provinces to his Obedience, and afterwards to visit all the other parts of his Dominions, that the Morrattas likewise are expected soon, it being reported they have imprisoned the person sent to pay them their annual Chout, with which they are not contented, and that Mirzah Sallah the Nabob of Cuttack has joined them. That the Nabob begins to be much troubled at the impending dangers, and his Jummidars seem not very inclinable to serve him with that zeal which his present desperate circumstances require their king, as they may expect to be treated like Rebels, most of the principal of them having a great part of their Fortunes, and some their families at Delly, That notwithstanding all this, Surrajah Dowlat is raising a great Army, and extorting as much money as he can get from the Rajahs and other people that are so unfortunate as to lie under his power not sparing the Europeans.

The above is the substance of Mr. Hastings his information, upon which we beg leave to make the following remarks. First, that the whole of it is not affirmed by the Gentleman to be matter of fact, and that in all probability great part of it may be no more than a Report raised by the Enemies of Souraggee Dowlat, next that Souraggee Dowlat is possessed of such immense Riches, and has so large an Army on foot, that it is very possible he will be able to extricate himself by one means or other from the dangers which threaten him at present, Lastly, should he be cut off or expelled from his Soubahship we should find immense difficulties to re-establish ourselves in the Priviledges and Grants which the Royal Phirmaund sets forth, and upon a proper and secure footing, unless we can support our demands with a sufficient and respectable Military Force; These reasons we flatter ourselves will convince your Honour &c, of the necessity as to the utmost of your power for recovering the Hon'ble Company's Settlements, Rights and Priviledges in these Provinces notwithstanding the intelligence we have received from Cazimbuzar.

We do not write this intelligence as a certainty or with any Intention to check the Resolutions you may come to for the assisting us, but if you should be prevented from sending us so considerable a Force, as we could wish, and have requested, by advice of a Rupture between the Crowns of Great Britain and France, we are then to desire you will then supply us with as large a number of Military and Artillery as you may judge consistent with the safety of the Hon'ble Company's Possessions on your Coast, that we may be ready and in a condition to make use of any turn in our favor, for which purpose and in hopes of Your Honour &c complying with our request, we are determined to keep the River till we receive your answer and are ascertained if we may expect a further Reinforcement, without which we apprehend it will be impossible to re-establish ourselves in Bengall.

We beg leave to remark that could we regain our Settlement during the troubles in the Country, it would be of the utmost consequence in recovering our Priviledges, which we should *find* extremely difficult as well as expensive, if the Government should be settled before we repossess our Colony; This consideration we flatter ourselves will have its due weight with your Honor &c, and we make no doubt will influence your Resolutions for sending us as large a Force to our Assistance as you can possibly spare from the calls on your Coast, and that as early as you conveniently can.

Inclosed we transmit you the Return of Military and Military Stores now in our Fleet, and are sorry to observe to your Honor &c that sickness greatly prevails among them, having lost Captain Godwin, Lieut. Samson, Lieut. Hardman, Ensign Vonga, and Ensign Walcott belonging to this establishment, and private men now sick and dead upwards of one hundred.

When Captain Dogan left Bengal in the month of May, he carried away some freight belonging to the Moors, which was retained in his Sloop and by us demanded of him, but he peremptorily refused to deliver it upon our Receipt, which we beg leave to mention to your Honor &c that you may take proper Notice of his behaviour.

Inclosed we transmit you a Pacquet for the Hon'ble Company which we request you will forward by any Vessel that may be under dispatch for Europe from your Coast, and we likewise inclose a Packet for the President and

Council of Bombay to be forwarded by Pattamar or Shipping as you may judge most expeditious.

Fulta,
17th September 1756.

We are Hon'ble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedient humble Servants

ROGER DRAKE, *Junr*,
JAMES KILLPATRICK,
PAUL RICHD PEARKES,
JNS. L. HOLWELL,
PAUL AMYATT,
WILLIAM WATTS,
RICHD BECHER,
WILLM FRANKLAND,
M. COLLET,
WILLM MACKELL,
THOS BODDAM.

Ordered that the Packet for the Hon'ble the Court of Directors be forwarded by the Chesterfield.

And it being observed that two Dacca Consultations and the Copies of three French Letters written from Chandernagore to Dacca were received along with the Letter from Richd Becher Esq., &c Council at Dacca and read in Consultation the 8th of September but omitted to be entered after the said Letter, it is Ordered that they be entered after this Committee, to the end that our Hon'ble Masters may be acquainted with every Information that has come to our hands from all quarters concerning the late unhapy event, although we must at the same time declare, that from all the different advices we have received from Fulta we see not the least room to suspect any such *Mystery of Iniquity* as is laid down in the last of the French Letters as the cause of the loss of Calcutta.

GEORGE PIGOT,
HENRY POWNEY,
ROBERT ORME,
WILLIAM PERCEVAL,
ROBERT PALK.

Dacca, June 27th, 1756.

At a Council Present,

Richd Becher Esq;
Messrs Luke Scrafton,
Thos Hindman,
Saml Waller.

The Consultation of the 21st Read, approved and signed. This day at noon our Vakeel came from the Durbar and acquainted us that the Nobob told him

Seer Raja Dowlat had taken and plundered the Town of Calcutta and had also made himself Master of Fort William, taken Mr Holwell and some other Gentlemen Prisoners. That the Governor, Second, and some few more having taken to the Ships were endeavouring to make their escape down the River. That this Intelligence came from the French. Our Vakeel further acquainted us that Dussurant Khan our Nabob demanded that we should surrender ourselves immediately, which if we did not comply with he would attack us, having everything in readiness. This account appears to us so improbable, that we apprehend it is put about in order to induce us to surrender. Agreed therefore that Mr Scrafton write to Monsr. Courtin desiring him to acquaint us if he has received any certain advice of the taking of Fort William by Seeraja Dowlat. In answer to which we received the melancholy confirmation of what our Vakeel had told us, Monsr. Conrtin assuring us that he had received the most certain advice of Fort William's being taken by the Nabob; That his letters were of the 19th, 20th, and 21st from the Governor in Council of Chandernagore and several other Gentlemen, that he was using his Endeavours to the Durbar to save our Lives and honor, he advises us to come to as Speedy a Resolution, telling us that Bravery becomes Temerity and imprudence when exerted *mal à propos*. Taking this affair into our most serious consideration we are unanimously of opinion that there is no Reason to doubt the truth of this news. Agreed therefore, that we write to Monsr. Courtin returning him our most sincere thanks for his kind designs in our favor, and to desire he wil permit Monsr. Fleurin to come to us, and let us know what terms can be procured for us in case we find we can't avoid Surrendering.

We now take into consideration the state of our Factory, Garrison, Provisions, &c., and from thence are to form a judgment whether we can render any-material service to our Hon'ble Employers by attempting to defend ourselves.

As to the situation of our factory it stands in a large Town surrounded with numbers of houses from which they might annoy us with Cannon and Small Arms. The Factory is little better than a common house, surrounded with a thin Brick wall one half of it not above nine feet high, our Garrison consists of a Lieutenant, 4 Serjeants, 3 Corporals, and 19 European Soldiers besides 34 black Christians, and 60 Buxieries, As to the last we have little to expect from them, as they have almost all demanded leave to quit us. Our provisions may last three weeks or a month, but if we are attacked our Ammunition will soon be expended, and our men exhausted with Fatigue, as we have so few they must be almost always on Duty. Our Factory is at the distance of near a quarter of a mile from the River. The passage by water to Calcutta from 14 to 20 days. That from Muxadavad to Dacca about four, From which place our Enemies might receive Reinforcements in 8 or 10 days. Notwithstanding the disadvantage of our situation, the smallness of our Garrison, &c., we were determined to defend ourselves to the utmost had we been attacked while Fort William continued in the hands of the English, and to enable us to do it we had planted what Guns we had to the best advantage, and with the Assistance of the Soldiers thrown up Breast works, &c., and privately procured an additional quantity of Powder. But since we are sure Fort William is taken, and that we can't expect the least assistance or Reinforcement from the Gentlemen who are escaped in their Ships, it does not appear to us that our attempting to defend ourselves can be of the least advantage to our Employers, and would rather be an act of rashness than bravery. Agreed therefore that we endeavor to procure the best terms possible by means of the French and surrender our factory.

Observing numbers of Armed men all around us, Ordered our Garrison to keep under Arms, and a strict watch to prevent a Surprize.

RICHARD BECHER,

LUKE SCRAFTON,

THOS. HYNDMAN,

SAML. WALLER.

Monday. Dacca, 28th June 1756.

At a Council Present,

Richard Becher, Esqr, *Chief*,

Messrs Luke Crafton,

Thos. Hyndman,

Saml. Waller.

The Consultation of the 27th Read, approved, and Signed.

This morning Monsr. Fleurin the French Second came to our Factory to acquaint us that he had been with Dusserant Khan, our Nabob, endeavouring to procure us the most favourable terms he could, but all that he was able to obtain was, that the Factory should be delivered up directly, the Soldiers lay down their Arms, and be carried Prisoners to the Nabob, the Ladies go out in Palankeens to the French Factory, the Palankeens not to be searched on Monsr. Fleurin's giving his word that nothing should be in them but the cloaths the Ladies had on. As to the chief, &c., Company's Servants the Nabob demanded that they should first be brought to him, and afterwards go to the French Factory, Monsr. Courtin giving his Parole to the Nabob that we shall wait the Orders of Seer Raja Dowlat in regard to our future fate. Taking these proposals into consideration, we think them very hard. But as Monsr. Fleurin assures us that very little alteration can be expected Agreed that we beg Monsr. Fleurin to endeavor to save us the disgrace of going to the Durbar, and obtain permission that we go directly to the French, also that the Soldiers may not be ill-used. This he promises to endeavor to obtain and to return in the afternoon.

The 28th June in the afternoon Monsr. Fleurin returned and acquainted us he had obtained permission for the Gentlemen to go to the French Factory without going to the Durbar, and that the Nabob had promised the Soldiers should not be ill-used or put in Irons. We then gave our Paroles to the French Chief, gave up our Military Prisoners to the Nabob's people, and are now with sorrowful hearts leaving our Factory being permitted to carry off nothing but the cloaths upon our Backs, having still this satisfaction left, that we have to our utmost discharged our Duty to our Hon'ble Employers.

At six in the Evening, RICHARD BECHER,

the 28th June 1756. LUKE SCRAFTON,

THOS HYNDMAN,

SAML. WALLER.

No. I.

A Monsieur Courtin à Daka, à date Chandernagore, 19 Juin 1756.

Monsieur,

Vous sçavez déjà a ce que m'a dit Monsr Sinfray les Sujets de Plainte qu'a le Nabob contre les Anglois, l'origine par consequent de la Guerre qu'il leur fait & tout ce qui s'est passé à Cazimbuzar.

La prise de leur fort en cet endroit bien loin de satisfaire Suraja Dowlat n'a fait que lui elever le courage: la facilité avec laquelle il s'en est emparé lui a sans doute persuadé qu'avec un peu de peine il viendroit à bout de chasser egalement les Anglois de Calcutta et qu'au moyen de cela il se rendoit maitre de tous les trésors que la Beagum de Navages Mahmet Khan & Rajabouloe y ont fait passer; rempli de cette idée & du nom qu'il s'alloit faire par cet exploit, il n'a voulu écoutter les réprésentations de personne, pas même celles de sa mêre, qui a voulu le retenir par le reproche qu'elle lui a fait de s'aller mesurer contre des Marchands; sur le champ, les ordres ont été donnés pour faire prendre les devants à son Armée dont nous avons vu successivement defiler sur nos barriers plusieurs corps de 4 de 6 & de 7 mille hommes avec de l'ar-

tillerie; lui même est parti le 5e c'est à dire deux jours après la rédition du fort Anglois, à la tête de vingt mille hommes, l'on fait monter de nombre de ses Elephans à 300. Son Artillerie est composée de 500 pieces de Cannon, du nombre des quelles sont 84 pieces qu'il a tiré de la loge Angloise, avec 500 mans de Poudre, et deux mille boulets de fer, à l'exception de cette Artillerie Europenne, et de ses provisions le reste de cette appareille n'est pas fort dangereuse, du moins à en juger par quelques pieces de Cannon que nous avons vû au Jardin des Hollandois, où un detachment de quelques cavaliers qui les conduisoit à resté deux Jours s'étant égarré de sa route, & n'ayant Jamais pû obtenir passage au travers de L'aldée: nous les avons été voir par Curiosité; rien n'est plus pitoyable que la façon dont ils sont montés et approvisionné l'on pretend qu'ils n'ont que des boulets de Calin.

Depuis le départ de Seeraja Dowlat de Muxadavad jusqu'au 15me l'on avoit eu aucunes nouvelles de lui & ce retardement avoit donné lieu à bien de charades plusieurs personnes pretendant qu'il etoit encore renfermé dans son Serrail, d'autres que sentant la difficulté de son entreprise, il vouloit entrer en negociation, en effet un Vaqueel de Coja Wazeed ayant voulu faire des propositions à Mons^r Drake, on soupçonna que le Nabob pour ne pas se compromettre avoit fair agir ce Merchand, mais ces bruits furent bientôt dissipés par l'arrivée de ce Seigneur qui coucha le 15e dans un Jardin vis à vis de Chinchurat.

Les Vacqueels des deux Nations lui ayans présenté le Salame dans cet endroit, le nôtre fut bien reçu & même il y eut deux Betels pour Mons^r Renault, mais pour les Hollandois il ne se contenta pas de les refuser, leur fit connoitre fort clairement le mépris qu'il avoit pour eux, et le dessein ou il etoit de leur rendre quelque visite à son retour de Calcutta, le lendemain on le vit passer dans cette grande Plaine qui est en face de la loge de l'autre côte de la Rivierre; ses Chameaux, ses Elephans, son train &^{ca} nous occuperent toute la Matinée.

Avant son départ de Muxadavad craignant peut être que les trois nations nese soutinsent mutuellement, ou bien, agissant de bonne foi, il fit appeller au Durbar, les Vacqueels François et Hollandois, leur declara la resolution ou il etoit de chasser les Anglois de Bengal, et en même tems vouloit sçavoir quels secours il pourroit attendre de leurs maitres dans son Expedition.

Le Hollandois qui avoit apparament sa laçon toute faite se hâta de repondre, que sa Compagnie n'etoit que Marchande, point du toute faitte pour la guerre, qu'a peine y avoit il a Chinchurat 10 pieces de cannon et 50 Soldats tant blancs que noirs, mais ajouta tout de suite et assurement pour nous rendre un mauvais Service, addressez-vous aux François, il sont bien forts à Chandernagore, d'ailleurs, ces sont des Gens qui ne peuvent rester en repos, ils ne demanderont pas mieux que de se battre contre les Anglois, surtout ils sont toujours en guerre avec aux tantôt battus, tantôt battans, il faut qu'ils ayent toujours les Armes a la main. Cette Reponse bien loin de produire l'effet qu'en attendoit le Vacqueel, a inspiré a Seeraja Dowlat et à son Durbar le plus grand mépris pour les Hollandois, ce qu'ils ont temoigné par beaucoup de marque d'indignation, et en même tems leur a donne une idée avantageuse de notre Nation, dont ils connoissent la valeur; le Nabob etoit si content qu'il a fait mille amitiés à notre Vacqueel, l'a renvoyé avec deux betels pour Mons^r Law et deux pour lui même, et a declaré publiquement qu'il vouloit nous donner Calcutta en propre qu'il alloit nous en faire délivrer le Paravana si nous voulionsà; toutes ces offres il a ajoute que son dessein etoit de nous élever dans la Bengale au même degré que nous étions à la Côte.

Après avoir ainsi vendude peau de l'ours avant de l'avoir tué &^{ca} il etoit si persuadé que nous allions accepter ces offres que quelques jours après il demanda a notre Vacqueel si Mons^r Renault avoit deja envoye ses Vaisseaux pour cercler Calcutta par eau, pendant que ses troupes l'entourreroient par terre; vous devez sçavoir Mons^r quelle a été la resolution du conseil à cet égard et la réponse qu'on lui a fait faire Sçavoir, qu'on ne pouvoit rien entreprendre contre les Anglois sans y etre authorise d'Europe, ou du moins de Pondichery, vu que la guerre n'étoit point declare entre cette Nation et la notre &^{ca}.

Ils avoient établi deux Batteries au dessus et au dessous de Calcutta; ils y etoient retranchés ainsi que derriere une grande fossée qu'ils avoient tiré autour de leur Aldée, resolus de defendre les approches de leur Colonie autant qu'ils pouvoient, mais l'arrivée du Nabob a fait changer de face à toutes leurs dispositions; à son approche, ils ont non seulement abandonné cette enceinte, mais même la Defence de leur Colonie Europeenne, ils se sont retirés dans leur loge, oú ils sont entassés; la Bravade qu'ils avoient faite dans les commencemens d'empêcher que qui que ce soit ne sortît de leur Aldée pour faire voir leur confiance n'a servi qu'a augmenter le Tumulte &$^{ca}_{a}$.

Les Anglois sont done actuellement reserrés dans leur fort autour du quel ils ont élévé une espece de Glacis qui les couvre entierrement, pour n'être point étourdis par les cris des Femmes ils les ont fait transporté á bord de leurs vaisseaux, qu'ils ont et prêts à faire voile au nombre de dix ou douze y compris les Brigantines et bats; ils ont aussi dit on chargé dessus les thrèsors qui leur sont confiés que l'on fait monter à deux crores.

Signé LECONTE.

From the same.

No. 2.

A Mons$_{r}$ Courtin à Daka,—à date Chandernagore, le 21^{e} Juin.

Le Pattamar ayant retardé deux Jours me donne le tems et l'occasion de vons faire part de la prise de Calcutta, cet evenement auquel nous nous attendions pas en verité, n'est malheureusement que trop certain: en voici les particularités que nous avons apris.

Le 19^{me} au soir nous sçumes ici par les blessés qui passèrent qu'il y avoit eu une Sortie de faitte par les Anglois dans laquelle ils avoient tué prés de 1,500 hommes aux Maures, mais qu'ilss' étoient retirés avec precipitation, et avoient eté obligés d'enclouer les Cannons de Compagne, qu'ils avoient emmenés: malgré cette avantage, l'esprit de vertige et de troubles est tellement emparrée d'eux qu'ils n'ont plus ecouté au commandement, Mons^{r} D rake s'étant retiré de la veille, Mons^{r} Holwell qui s'est trouvé Commandant n'a pas fait la moindre Résistance; les Maures montés sur les maisons qui dominent le Fort y ont établis tranquillement leur Batteries, et y ont fusilé à leur aise les Anglois que n'ônt jamais osé riposter; on pretend qu'ils n'ont pas tiré dix coups de Cannon; le peu d'ordre qui regnoit faisoit que les Soldats maitres des Magazins étoient toujours yvres et incapables de Service, enfin hier le feu ayant pris aux Magazins, les Soldats au lieu de chercher à l'eteindre ont pris l'epouvante et se sont sauvés abord des Vaisseaux pele mele, Mons^{r} Holwell voyant cette fuite a écrit sur le champ au Nabob pour entrer en composition a haussé Pavillon Maure: a ce Signal les Maures, qui entourroient le Fort croyant que leur camarades y etoient entrés se sont jettés comme des perdus sur les murailles, et aux Portes qu'ils ont enfonces &^{ca}. Cet évenement qui s'est passé hier à trois heures après midi, et que nous n'avons appris qu'à onze heures le soir a été accompagné de circonstances les plus tristes pour les Anglois: leur plus grand vaisseau chargé d'un monde étonnant, a échoué sur un banc à côté de Calcutta, et y est encore, le Nabob a fait chargé de paille une quantité de Batteaux avec les quels il conte mettre le feu au vaisseau si il ne se rend pas &^{ca}.

LE CONTE.

No. 3.

Extrait d'une Lettre écritte de Chandernagore en datte du 3^{e} Juillet 1756, concernant les Suittes de la Prise de Calcutta.

Nous avons à remplir icy à l'égard de plusieurs Anglois, entre autres Messr^{s} Watts & Collet les mêmes devoirs que ceux dont vous vous êtes acquittés a Daka. Ces deux derniers arriverent icy le 28 au soir en Palanquine, mais du reste en assez mauvais équipage, quoique peu de Jours après sa Detention, le Nabob eût donné ordre de le traitter un peu mieux. Il a toujours été assujeti à une quantité d'ignominies: on lui a laissé a peine une partie de son linge, et de ses hardes; Lorsqu'il passa auprès de Chinchurat en suivant le Nabob à son expédition de Calcutta, il fit demander quelques Secours à Mons^{r} Besdom, qui outre quelques raffraichissements lui envoya 1,000 Rupˢ pour pouvoir retirer cette envoy des mains, des Sangsues qui le gardaient, il fut obligé d'entrer en accomodement et de sacriffier plus de 600 Rˢ de 1,000 pour sauver le reste; à la fin il a été relaché, le Nabob même l'a recommendé à Monsʳ Renault, avec injonction de le faire passer à la coste; on dit même que pour réparer le mal qu'il lui a fait, il a promis d'écrire eu sa faveur au conseil de Madras, en lui marquant l'insolente conduite des anglois et de Monsʳ Drake, ce qui l'avoit obligé à en venir avec eux aux dernieres extrémités, et a les chasser de Bengal, Je doutte fort que cette Protection serve beaucoup à Monsʳ Watts, quoique dans le fond, il soit bieu moins coupable que Monsʳ Drake. On ne peut tout au plus reprocher au premier que trop de Foiblesse, et d'imprudence, au lieu que ce dernier est coupable en outre de Lacheté, de Friponerie, et de la plus insigne Trahison que l'on puisse commettre, ayant preferé ainsi que le commandant des troupes, et la plus grande partie du Conseil, leur Sureté et celle de leurs biens au Salut d'une quantité de Femmes, d'honêtes gens, et d'une foule de chrétiens: L'on sçait à present le détail de tout ce qui s'est passé dans ce triste événement, et les Resorts secrets de toute cette affaire que l'on ne peut regarder que comme un Mistere d'iniquité. Il n'est plus douteux à la façon dont se conduit Monsʳ Drake que son plan ne fut formé avec le Commandant des Troupes et quelques Conseillers, et qu'ils n'eussent jugés les uns et les autres ces Troubles, un coup de Parti, pour s'approprier une partie des richesses immenses qui leur etoient confieés; c'est dans cette vue que Monsʳ Drake au lieu d'entrer en accomodement avec le Nabob, n'avoit cherchvé qu'à le pousser à bout par les Réponses les plus Insolentes; il auroit été bieu faché sans doutte que les choses n'en fussent pas venues la; mais il est bien plus surprenant encore qu'ayant pour objet la pertee de sa Colonie et sa retraitte abord des Vaisseaux, il n'ait pas mieux songé à s'assurer ce dernier Article, et qu'il n'ait mis abord de ses Batimens, ni eau ni vivres, ni matelots- n'y même de lest, n'ayant uniquement songé qu à leurs Richesses, comme si en mer l'argent supleoit au reste; on pretend en effêt 'qu'ils manquent de tout, et que les Conseillers virent au Cabestan.

Avant que l'on sçut tout ce qui s'étoit passé dans le Fort, on ne comprenstroit pas comment les Maures s'en étoient rendus maitres, et par quel enchantement la tête avoit tournée aux Anglois à ce point la. Les mesures de Mons. Drake étoient si bien prises qu'il laissa dans la loge les 3 Conseillers, qui lui étoient le plus opposés, Sçavoir, Messrˢ Holwell, Eyre et Ballie; il avoit choisi pour faire ce beau coup le moment d'une Sortie qu'il avoit ordonnée, dans le tems qu'il s'embarquoit une Foule de Soldats et de Peuple, se jetta pêle mêle a l'eau et dans les Batteaux pour Joindre les Vaisseaux, ce à quoi fort peu reussirent, plusieurs ayant coulés avant d'arriver: ceux qui ont été Temoins de ce Tumulte, comptoient avoir vu se noyer plus de deux cent personnes.

Après cette retraitte qui avoit occasionné une grande sédition, et pendant laquelle on tira quelques coups de Fusil sur Monsʳ Drake, la consternation se mit dans ceux qui étoient restés, les Soldats du Detachement qui revenoit de son Expédition, ne trouvant plus ni Gouverneur ni Commandant se mutinerent, enforcerent les Godons de vin et s'en remplirent. Le peu qui etoient capable de faire Resistance et de se laisser aller ainsi au Désspoir, fit bonne contenance jusqu'au Jeud: ce devoit être Dimanche que voyant que le desordre continuoit, ils jugerent à propos de se rendre. Le moment ou les Maures s'emparerènt du Fort fut semblable à celui de la retraitte, bien des Personnes se noyerent cherchant Azile abord des Vaisseaux. Les 2 premiers jours se passerent avec la licence, et avec tous les desordres d'une Place prise d'assant a l'exception du massacre auquel les Maures ne sont pas habitués envers ceux qui sont desarmés. Environ 160 Européens qui furent pris dans le Fort, furent renfermés dans une chambre si Pettite qu'ils n'y pourroient tenir que debout et les bras hauts; de la 1ʳᵉ nuit 132 y moururent etouffés par la chaleur; Monsʳ Eyre Conseiller, que vous avez peut être connu eut le même Sort le lendemain. Un Anglois que s'est sauvé de cet enfer rapporte un trait de Monsʳ Eyre qui fait voir ce qu'ils avoient à souffrir, il dit que comme il etoit extrêmement gras et réplet, il n'avoit pas imaginé d'autre soulagement, que de tirer sa Payne qui ainsi qu'aux autres étoit son unique Vêtement, de la tirer dis-je tout imbibée de Sueur, de la ordre, et d'en exprimer dans sa Bouche ce qui en Sortoit pour se désalterer; il n'est pas surprenant qu'il n y ait pas tenu; Monsʳ Baillie l'autre Conseiller a é é tué, mais Mons^r Holwell est sans doutte le plus a plaindre : comme c'étoit lui qui exerçoit la Gémidarerie à Calcutta, les Maures lui en vouloient de loin : en conséquence on lui donne la Chabouque presque tous les Jours, et l'on s'attend à apprendre à tous moments qu'il auroit succombé sous ce tourment. Lorsque le Nabab fit son entree dans le Fort de Calcutta, il ne put revenir de sa Surprise en voyant un amas si prodigieux de canons, de Boulets, & autre munition : le premier article en effet monte à plus de 500 tant montés, que sur leurs affuts ; il futfrappé de la Beauté du Gouvernement et le trouva digne d'être habité par des Princes, et non par des Marchands. En voyant le feu en une quantité d'endroits, et considerant le grand nombre de belles maisons il ne peut s'empêcher de dire en parlant des Anglois, qu'il falloit que ces gens la fussent bien fons pour l'avoir obligé de les forcer à abandonner une si grande ville. Sur le champ il donnoit ordre de détruire le Gouvernement en haine de Mons^r Drake, à qui il s'imagine qu'il appartenoit en propre, mais le reste fut conservé et le feu éteint, il fut même demeurer dans la belle maison de Mons^r Wedderburn, et il fit publier un ordre apres quelque tems, à tous les chretiens et Gentils de returner habiter leurs maisons dans 3 Jours sous peine de les perdre : quelques uns ont obei, et il ne leur a fait aucun mal, la plus grande Partie n'a pas osés, et est dans notre Aldée. Ils ont en d'autant plus de raison de ne se point prêter à cette invitation que le Nabab depuis quelques Jours a changé d'avis, on ne sçait sous quel Prétexte et qu'il a envoyé 2,000 Pioniers pour detruire et razer toute la Colonie, ne voulant pas, dit il, qu'il y reste Pierre. Le Faussedar passa même hier au soir pour aller hater l'ouvrage par sa Presence, on disoit icy d'abord, que c'etoit en Revanche des désordres que commetoient les Anglois au bas de la Riviere où ils bruloient et ravagoient touttes les Aldées, mais on a sçu depuis que cette nouvelle etoit fausse, ainsi que celle de l'arrivée de 2 de leurs vaisseaux de guerre que l'on dit tous les Jours être arrivés et qui disparoissent le Lendemain.

Par ma derniere lettre j'avois l'honnenr de vous marquer, je crois, que les Anglois etoient encore avec leurs Vaisseaux un peu au dessous de Calcutta, qu'apres avoir abandonné 5 Vaisseaux sous leur Fort, et perdu un sur un Banc, ils étoient assez embarassés pour Passer Maconatana (Tanner's Fort) ou les Maures avoient dressé des Batteries ; ils ont depuis franchi ce pas assez aisément, mais à celui de Bongi Bongi, où on les attendoit avec beaucoup de Cagetoques, ils ont perdu deux de leur vaisseaux qui ont echoués et se sont entre ouverts tout de suitte, heureusement les Maures ont sauvé tout le monde dont le nombre etoit considerable surtout en Femmes parmy les quelles s'est trouvée la. Niece de Mons^r Finnelly, on n'a fait de mal au personne mais de Gemidar de l'endroit n'a voulu les relacher qu'à la condition qu'on lui donneroit 25 R^s par tête. On a sçu depuis que les Anglois les avoient rachetées et qu'elles avoient rejoint les vaisseaux : les Maures ont trouvé sur ces vaisseaux une grande quantité d'argenterie sur toute celle de la Compagnie et 20 Caisses d'argent. Notre vaisseau *le Silhouet* ne sachant rien de la guerre des Anglois a été fort surpris en passant devant Maconatana de se voir tirer une grande quantité de coups de Cayetoques, la force de la marée l'empêchant de mouiller la, il a jetté l'Ancre au dessus de cette Forteresse ; les Anglois qui n'étoient pas encore passés en ce tems la sont venus abord, du moins quelques uns de la Connoissance de Mons^r Chambon, ils lui ont appris de quoy il etoit question. et n'ont put empêcher de convenir qu'ils s'etoient couverts de honte par la Lacheté avec laquelle ils s'etoient enfuis, mais en même Tems pour engager le Capitaine à riposter sur les Maures en cas que l'on eût tiré de nouveau sur lui, ils lui ont declaré que nous étions aussi fourrés dans cette Affaire, et que le Nabab vouloit aussi nos chasser de Chandernagore ; il n'est pas difficile de decouvrir l'intention d'un rapport aussi infidele, Mons^r Chambon avant de se déterminer, a expedié à Mons^r Renault qui lui a envoyé ordre de prendre garde à ne pas donner le moindre ombrage aux Maures, en effet il a été obligé d'envoyer pendant la nuit quelques raffraichissemens que les Anglois lui avoit demandés. Après la ruine de Calcutta nous avons eu, ainsi que les Hollandois, notre tour pour la Peur. Non pas à la verité autant que les Anglois mais peu s'en faut ; l'armée du Nabob, a presque toute defilée au travers de notre Aldée insultant tont le monde dans les Rues, y commetant mille violences, enlevant les Domestiques et Baeras pour porter leur Butin, accablant de coups des gens du Port pour avoir des Batteaux, enfin que vous dirai-je' les choses ont été vingt fois sur le point d'être portés a l'extremité; pour nous achever le Nabob s'etant rendu à Hugly le 25 a mis à Contribution les deux Nations, les Hollandois lui ont payé 4 Lacs et demi, et nous malgré le Fremissement général de tout le monde, tant employés et Particuliers que Soldats et Matelots, malgré notre nombre de 300 blancs, et l'envie de venger l'honneur du nom Europeen, nous nous Sommes Soumis à Payer dit on 3 Lacs; il faut croire que l' interêt de, Petits Comptoirs n'a peu contribué à determiner Mess^{rs} du conseil dont les lumieres, plus étendues que celles de nous autres jeuns gens sont plus à portée de juger des advantages et des desavantages de notre resistance; a l'egard de la Loge je ne crois pas qu'on ait eu la moindre crainte, et qu'il etoit aisé de voir par l'ardeur que tout le monde témoignoit combien elle êtoit en sureté, mais il n'en est pas moins vrai qu'outre les petits comptoirs il eût eté bien difficile de defendre la Colonie, dout la destruction eût ruiné tous les Marchands &$^{c.}$ Les Capitaines de ces vaisseaux qui se sont échoués à Bongi Bongi arrivoient hier icy, ils ont éte suivis par une quantite d' autres de tous Etats que le Nabab permet que nous rétirions, il a même fait dire qu'il nous enverroit tous ceux dont il s'empareroit, ainsi nous nous attendons à voir bientôt ceux de Daka.

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We are Sir
Your most obedient Servants,
GEORGE PIGOT & Committee.

FORT S^{T}. GEORGE,
The 9th November 1756.

Exd.—T. Y.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—827 F. D.—3-2-93.—500.

Monday, the 1st June 1756.

At a Consultation, Present:

George Pigot, Esqr, *Governr President.*
Robert Clive.
Henry Powney.
Alexr Wynch.
John Smith.
Stringr Lawrence.
Robert Orme.

Charles Bourchier.
Mr. Perceval, *Absent, being indisposed.*

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the Table.

The Minutes of last Consultation dated the 25th ultimo read & signed.

Commission to be drawn out for Mr. Clive as Deputy Govr of Fort St David and 7 months allowance to be pd him.

Ordered that a Commission be drawn out Constituting Robert Clive, Esq Deputy Governour of Fort St David, and that he be paid the Company's Allowance as Deputy Governour for seven months past which have elapsed since his arrival in India.

*   *   *   *   *   *   *

ROBERT ORME.	GEORGE PIGOT.
A. WYNCH.	ROBERT CLIVE.
———	STRINGER LAWRENCE.
JOHN SMITH.	HENRY POWNEY.

CHAS BOURCHIER.

Thursday, the 17th June 1756.

At a Consultation, Present:

George Pigot, Esqr, *Governr President.*
Robert Clive.
Henry Powney.
Alexr Wynch.
John Smith.
Stringr Lawrence.
Robert Orme.
William Perceval.
Charles Bourchier.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the Table.

The Minutes of last Consultation dated the 19th Instant read & Signed.

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Letter to Fort St David to deliver over the settlement to Mr. Clive.

Mr. Clive intending to set out tomorrow for Fort St David to take charge of that Settlement as Deputy Governour, ordered that a General Letter be prepared to the present Deputy Governour and Council acquainting them of Our Hon'ble Master's Appointment of Mr. Clive to be Deputy Governour, and directing them on his arrival to receive him with the usual Honours, and that Mr. Starke having deliver'd over to him the Charge of the Settlement, may come up hither to take his Seat at the Bench when it suits his conveniency.

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ROBERT ORME. GEORGE PIGOT.

A. WYNCH. ROBERT CLIVE.

WILLM PERCEVAL. STRINGER LAWRENCE.

JOHN SMITH. HENRY POWNEY.

CHAS BOURCHIER.

Monday, the 28th June 1756.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQR, *Governr President.*

STRINGR LAWRENCE.

ROBERT ORME.

WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

HENRY POWNEY.

ALEXR WYNCH.

JOHN SMITH.

CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the Table.

The Minutes of the two last Consultations dated the 21st & 22nd Instant read and Signed.

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No. 84, from Robert Clive, Esqr. Deputy Governour, &ca. Council at Fort St David, dated the 23rd Instant acquainting us of the arrival there of Robert Clive, Esqr. on the 22d, when agreeable to Our Orders of the 18th, he was receiv'd with the usual Honours, and Richard Starke, Esqr. the late Deputy Governour deliver'd over to him the Charge of the Settlement, who intends to proceed to the Presidency so soon as he can settle his private Affairs.

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A. WYNCH. GEORGE PIGOT.

WILLM PERCEVAL. STRINGER LAWRENCE.

JOHN SMITH. HENRY POWNEY.

CHAS. BOURCHIER. ROBERT ORME.

Wednesday, the 14th July 1756.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ^{R}., *Govorn^{r} President.*

STRING^{R} LAWRENCE.

ROBERT ORME.

WILL^{M} PERCEVAL.

HENRY POWNEY.

ALEX^{R} WYNCH.

JOHN SMITH.

CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the Table.

The Minutes of the two last Consultations dated the 5th Instant read and signed.

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From Bengal.—N^{o} 95, N^{o} 96 & 97.—From the Hon'ble Roger Drake, Esq^{r} President & Governour, &^{ca} Council of Fort William. The first dated the 25th of May acknowledging the Receipt of our Letters of the 13th April & 11th May And acquainting us that they shall give the *Prince George* a thorough Repair when she arrives. That the Treasure ℘ *Fortune Ketch* has turned out right. That agreeable to our Request they shall give necessary Orders for stationing Peons for expediting Advices. That by the Advices they received from Our Hon'ble Masters by the *Delawar* they have great Reason to apprehend a War, & it being recommended to them to be upon their guard, they think it incumbent on them to represent to us the weak state of their Garrison, occasioned chiefly by our detaining the Recruits design'd them for several years past, amounting to six hundred and sixty three (663) as ℘ the List now sent Us; that it is highly necessary We should send them as large a Reinforcement as We can possibly spare, and also some Musquetts which they are in great want of. That by the *Mermaid* & *Syren* Sloops they consign'd us one thousand three hundred & fifty (1,350) Bags Salt Petre, & shall send what further quantity We may indent for; That their Nabob, Ally Verdi Cawn, is demised & is succeeded by his adopted son Seer Raja Dowlat. Enclosing a Packet for the President & Council of Bombay to be forwarded. The second dated 4th June Acquainting Us that since the date of their last they had been & are still involved in a Dispute with the Country Government occasion'd by the Nabob's taking Umbrage at their repairing & Strengthening their Line of Guns towards the River, and that by Letters from Cassimbuzar (Copies of which they send us) they are afraid Matters will be carried to Extremities, the Nabob having station'd a Party of Horsemen round that Factory & seeming much exasperated. That should they be attacked they are resolv'd to repel force by force, & to that End desire we will send them as soon as possible all the Recruits we have detained from them, or at least a Reinforcement of Five hundred (500) men with a proportionable Quantity of Arms & Stores, which if We neglect doing, they deem themselves no ways responsible for what may happen. That they think it advisible We should communicate this to Admiral Watson. That the *Prince George* has imported there, & shall be returned to the Negrais with stores and Artificers so soon as repair'd, should they in the meantime not receive any Instructions from us to the Contrary. That the Owners of the *Fortune Ketch* have relinquished the Freight for the Treasure sent them; & they doubt not but upon proper application to the Commanders of the Vessells belonging to their settlement We may always forward the supply's intended them freight free; that they shall dispatch a Pattamar to us about the end of the month with a Packet to be forwarded by the *Delawar* to England, & now enclose a Packet from the Negrais receiv'd by the *Prince George*. A Postscript is added to acquaint us that they had just receiv'd Advices from Cassimbuzar that another Party with a Train of Artillery was arrive there, that some Peons are placed over their Vackeel, and that all Communication with the Country People is cut off, from which We may judge what they have to expect. The third is dated the 7th June acquainting us that the Nabob had ordered a considerable Party with a large Train of Artillery to march down the River, that they were actually on this side of Cassimbuzar, and that all Communication was cut off from that Factory, from which they apprehend his Designs extend further than is known, & therefore entreat us to send a Reinforcement without the least delay. In a Postscript they advise us of the surrender of Cassimbuzar, & refer us for Particular to Copies of Letters from thence which they enclose.

A Detachment of 2 Companies to be sent to Bengal the *Delawar*.

The measures proper to be taken with respect to the situation of Affairs at Bengal being considered, the Board at first had thought of sending the *Suffolk* with the *Delawar* down thither, but upon discoursing with the Commanders, and finding that the *Delawar* alone can carry as many men as can be spared, it is Agreed that the *Delawar* only be dispatched as expeditiously as possible, and for that purpose that the Bales & Salt Petre laden on her for Europe be landed with all dispatch, and that two compleat Companys of Military be sent on her. The Board then proceeded to the Nomination of Officers to Command the said Detachment, when Colonel Lawrence very readily offer'd to proceed with the Command, but the Board thinking his Service necessary here, and judging also from an Indisposition which constantly attends him that the air of Bengal especially at this Season of the year might prove futal to him, it is therefore on these considerations thought more adviseable to desire Major Killpatrick to take upon him the Command of the Detachment. Major Killpatrick being thereupon desired to attend the Board and being informd of the circumstances of Affairs at Bengal & the resolution of sending a Reinforcement thither, acquaints the Board that tho' he had resign'd the Service and resolv'd on going home, yet being ready and desirous at all times to shew his inclination to serve the Company, as well as Gratitude for the favours receiv'd, if the Board think proper he will proceed with the said Command. It is thereupon Agreed Major Killpatrick Command the said Detachment and that the other officers be.—

Major Killpatrick to Command the Party.

Officers to proceed.

Lieutenant Dugald Campbell,
Lieutenant Samuel Samson,
Ensign James Ogilvie,
Ensign Stephen Smith,
Lieutenant John Francis Paschoud of the Train,

and that Captain William Len, now at Fort St David, and Captain Lieutenant Benjamin Godwin and Lieutenant Erdman of the Train now at Camp be order'd to come in and to proceed to Bengal by the next conveyance.

Agreed that Four Iron Three Pounders with Carriages and Ammunition compleat be also sent with the said Detachment.

3 Pounders to be sent.

It is referred to the Storekeeper to Agree with Capt Winter of the *Delawar* for Victualling the Military in the Passage to Bengal.

Storekr to agree to victualling the Detachment v *Delawar*.

The *Norwood* being loaded with *Redwood* for Bengal on the Company's Account, and in readiness to sail, agreed that a Lack of Rupees be put on board her, and that she be despatch'd to Bengal immediately with Advices to the President & Council of the foregoing Resolution.

Norwood be despatch'd with Treasure & *Redwood* to the Bay.

Lieut.-Dug.-Campbell recommended to Bengal.

The Hon'^{ble} Court of Directors having been pleased to recommended Lieutenant Dugald Campbell to be preferred according to his Merit, Agreed that it be recommended to the Gentlemen at Bengal to give him a Captain Brevet.

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A. WYNCH. GEORGE PIGOT.
WILL^{M} PERCEVAL. STRINGER LAWRENCE.
JOHN SMITH. HENRY POWNEY.
CH$^{.}$ BOURCHIER. ROBERT ORME.

18th Sent General Letter to Fort St. David dated this day.

Thursday the 19th August 1756.

At a Consultation, Present.
George Pigot, Esq^{r}, *Govern^{r} President.*
Stringer Lawrence.
Robert Orme.
John Smith.
Henry Powney.
William Perceval.
Charles Bourchier.

Colonel Aldercron present.

John Adlercron Esq^{r}., Colonel of His Majesty's 39th Regiment of Foot and Commander in Chief of the Land Forces in India, also Present at the request of the Board.

For Colonel Aldercron's Information the following Letters are again read, *viz^{t}.*

Sundry Letters read.

Letter from Messrs. Watts and Collet at Chandernagore, dated 2nd July 1756.

Letter from the Nabob of Bengal to the President.

Letter from ditto, to the Directore at Chandernagore.

State of affairs at Bengal laid open.

Letter from this Board to Rear Admiral Watson dated yesterday, And the whole Circumstances of the Company's Affairs at Bengall and all the measures that have hitherto been taken being fully laid open to him, the President then laid before the Board the following Letter from Admiral Watson :—

Letter from Admiral Watson.

Gentlemen,—I have receiv'd your Letter of the 18th Instant and am much concern'd to find the Company's Affairs in so bad a situation at Bengal, I shall very readily give them all the Assistance in my power and will proceed with the whole Squadron as far as Ballisore Road, where I shall be able to consult the Pilots on the Practicability of my getting there, I shall with the utmost cheerfullness put every thing in execution that can be proposed for their Service.

The time of my Sailing wholly depends on you, as the Ships can't proceed to Sea till their Provisions and Water is compleated, which will take up a considerable time, if some better method is not pursued in the management of the Boats, than is now followed.

As I propose sending a *Frigate* before me, in order to have the Pilots ready at Ballisore Road at my arrival. If you have any Troops or Stores you would send by her I will give the Captain Orders accordingly.

Fort St. George, I am Gentlemen,
19th Aug^{t}. 1756. Your most obedt. humble servant,
CHARLES WATSON.

Military to be sent to Bengal considered.

Resolution thereon.

The Board taking into Consideration the Number of military necessary to be sent on this Expedition are of Opinion that two hundred Military and Forty of the Train may be spared upon so extraordinary and Interesting an Occasion as the present, these being added to the Number of Two hundred and Sixty four Rank & file of His Majesty's Troops (which Colonel Adlercron informs the Council are now on Board the Squadron) will, the Board are of Opinion, form a Body sufficient for the intended Service, especially should they be so fortunate as to join the Party of Two hundred men and upwards sent on the *Delawar* which however is not depended on. It is therefore Resolved that two hundred Rank & file of the Company's Troops with Forty men of the Train be draughted accordingly for this Expedition.

Colonel Adlercron then withdrew.

Admiral Watson to determine whether any military go on the *Frigate*.

to touch at Vizag^{ptm} to land Treasure.

Agreed that it be left entirely to Admiral Watson to determine whether any part of the Detachment intended for Bengal shall be embarked on board the *Frigate* he purposes sending before the Squadron, And that he be desired to permit that Frigate to touch at Vizagapatan as well to gain Intelligence as to land Thirty thousand Rupees and Thirty thousand Madras Pagodas for the use of the Northern Settlements.

General Letter to be wrote to Bengal.

And one from the President to the Nabob of Bengal.

Agreed that by the said Frigate a General Letter be wrote to the President & Council, or to the President or such of the Council as may be met with, acquainting them of the intended Expedition, and the President is desired by the same Conveyence to address the Nabob of Bengal, acquainting him that he is inform'd by his Letter as well as by other channels of the fatal Resolution he had taken & carried into Execution in respect to the English Settlements in his Subah, and that he purposes very shortly either to go down to Bengal himself or to send his Deputy to Negociate with him concerning the Rights of the English Nation.

General Letters read, *viz^{t}.*—

General Letters read from Bombay.

N^{o} 111.—From the Hon'ble Richard Bourchier, Esq^{r} President & Governour, &^{ca} Council at Bombay dated the 16th June, acknowledging the Receipt of our Letter of the 10th May advising the arrival of the *Delawar*, and acquainting Us that they hope to dispose of the Woollen Goods which We have receiv'd by her, as the Quantity consign'd them by their expected Ships is less than usual.

From Fort S^{t} David.

N^{o} 113.—From Robert Clive, Esq^{r} Deputy Gov^{r} &^{ca} Council at Fort S^{t} David, dated the 16th Instant, acknowledging the Receipt of our Letter of the 8th with the Supply of Twenty thousand Pagodas, and acquainting Us of the arrival of M^{r} Wynch, & of his being appointed Import and Export Ware House Keeper and Accomptant, that Messrs. Norris, Turner & Gall are appointed a Committee for carrying on the Fortifications, And that Touneveroy Pillah & Cawn Moodelier are not yet arrived, which induces them to request We would hasten their departure.

Mr. Starke resigns the service.

Letter from Richard Starke Esq^{r} read, as enter'd hereafter, acquainting the Board that as the Company have been pleased to Supersede him by the appointment of M^{r} Clive, he apprehends his conduct cannot have been agreeable to them, and therefore desires permission to resign their Employ. In which the Board acquiesce.

The Chief Mate of the *Dodington* his account of the loss of that Ship &^{c}.

Desires to deposit sundrys saved.

Letter from M^{r} Evan Jones, late Chief Mate of the *Dodington* read, as enter'd hereafter, giving an account of the manner in which that Ship was lost, with the Occurrences and transactions of those who were saved, till the time of their being taken on board the *Caernarvon* at *Morandaira*, And desiring that the Board will receive and give him a discharge for a Chest of Treasure, a Box of Plate and a Lady's Watch which were saved from the wreck.

Order'd to be receiv'd into the Treasury.

Agreed that the said Treasure, Plate and Watch be received into the Company's Treasury.

Allowance to the late Chief & 3d Mates of the *Dodington*.

The said Mr Evan Jones and Mr William Webb, late 3d Mate of the *Dodington* being destitute of means to support themselves at present, and the Court of Directors having approved of the Assistance which was given to the Officers of the *Lincoln* in the year 1749 under the like circumstances, Agreed that Eight Pagodas ꝑ month be allowed to each of them until they can procure their Passage to Europe, or otherwise provide for themselves.

Surgeon of *Caernarvon* & *Marlbro* requisting Head Money granted.

Two requests read as enter'd hereafter, one from Surgeon of the *Caernarvon* the other from the Surgeon of the *Marlbro*, for the usual Gratuity on the recruits landed here from those Ships.

Order'd that the Paymaster discharge the same.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS BOURCHIER.

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esqr
President & Governour, &ca Council of Fort St George.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,—I am to acquaint you that agreeable to your Orders of the—June I have deliver'd over the Charge of the Settlement of Fort St David to Colonel Robert Clive, and as I imagine by the Company's having been pleas'd to supersede me by the appointment of that Gentleman so much my Junior in their service my Conduct cannot have been so agreeable to them, as I can assure Your Honour, &ca I have endeavour'd to make it, I am to desire permission to resign their Employ, in order that I may settle my Affairs and return to Europe.

FORT ST GEORGE,
The 19th Augt 1756.

I am, with respect,
HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,
Your most Obedt humble Servant,

RICHD STARKE.

* * * * * * *

AT A CONSULTATION PRESENT.

GEORGE PIGOT, Esqr, *Governr President.*
STRINGR LAWRENCE.
ROBERT ORME.
JOHN SMITH.
HENRY POWNEY.
WILLIAM PERCEVAL.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the Table.

The Minutes of Consultations dated the 14th, 17th, 18th, 19th & 20th Instant read & sign'd.

General Letters read *Vizt*.

General Letter from Ingeram.

No. 114 From Foss Westcott Esq., Resident at Ingeram, dated 2nd Instant acknowledging the Receit of our Letter of the 9th Ultimo and acquainting us that the Freight be charged in the month of February for Wares, &ca ꝑ *Nancy* & *Don Carlos* is what he actually paid and is less than what has been usual for such Weighty & Cumbersome Stores, forwarding His Books ending April 1756 & Monthly Papers for July. Cloth on hand 325 Corge.

Letter from Messrs. Watts & Collet.

No. 115 and No. 116 General Letters from Messrs. Watts & Collet the first dated at Chandernagore the 6th the other the 7th July and enclosing Copys of two Letters from the President Mr. Drake and others of the Council of Bengal dated on board Ship *Dodaly* off of Falta all which are read, and are as follows.

Chandernagore 6th July 1756.

To—The Hon'ble George Pigot, Esqr. &ca. Council at Fort St George.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,—Enclosed comes Duplicate of Our Letter of the 3rd Instant, since which We are inform'd that the Dacca Factory was surrounded and the Gentlemen obliged to surrender, that the French Chief has receiv'd them into their Factory till he has the Nabob's Order concerning them, that Mr Amyatt has made his escape from Luckipore with Effects of the Companys to the amount of about 60,000 Rupees, Mr. Boddam from Ballasore likewise with about 5 or 6,000 Rupees.

We have been obliged to borrow money of the French Company for Our Subsistence as We have Lost every thing We had in Bengall, Vizt, Mr Watts 2,000 for Him and His Family and Mr Collet 500 Rupees, for which We have given Receipts; as these Notes will be Tender'd to your Honour, &ca, to honour them, and in case the Company do not think proper to make Us any Allowance We shall with pleasure repay the sum advanced. Enclosed is a List of what Gentlemen are on Board of the English Ships in the River.

We are with respect,

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obedient humble Servants,

Wm WATTS.

M. COLLET.

To—the Hon'ble George Pigot, Esqr., &ca, Council of Fort St. George.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,—Since our last We have receiv'd a Letter from the Gentlemen on Board of the Ships at Fulta, Copy of which We enclose, as also Copy of a Letter they desire to be translated into Persian and sent to the several Great Men about the Nabob for Permission to re-establish the Settlement.

We must beg leave to Observe to Your Honour, &ca, that We wrote to the Governor & Council of Calcutta when We were at Houghly, which was the first opportunity We had, that if they would send a proper Person or Empower Us, We flatter'd ourselves that We should be able even to accommodate matters for a Sum of money. We are not certain but are informed that that Letter was receiv'd, and an Answer wrote, Importing that after the Affront the Nabob had given of sealing up the Company's Effects and confining their Servants at Cassimbuzar they could not think of coming to any Terms of accommodation. We are inform'd likewise by Cossenant, one of the Company's Banyans, that Omichund and some of the Principal Merchants offer'd to contribute considerably towards making up Affairs, Coja Wazeed, the greatest Merchant in Bengal, who resides at Houghly and has great influence with the Nabob, His Duan told Us that He went Four times to Calcutta in Order to persuade the Gentlemen to make up matters with the Nabob, but was Threatened to be Ill used if he came again on the same errand.

We shall do all in Power to get permission to re-establish the Settlement but are without any hopes of obtaining it during the Life of the present Nabob.

We therefore know of no other method but that of a Military Force, which We hope Your Honour, &ᶜᵃ, will be able to send sufficient to attack the Nabob even in his Metropolis, as We Hear a Peace is confirm'd with France.

There are 79 of our Serjeants Soldiers and others in the Hospital here, who escaped from Calcutta, and are provided with Provisions & Cloaths by the French Governour & Council, Who have been extreamly Humane to Us all, and now maintain by Charity near 3,000 Poor Portugueze, Men, Women & Children, who were Inhabitants of Calcutta.

We are with Respect,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

Your most Obedient humble Servants.

Wᴹ WATTS.

M. COLLET.

CHANDERNAGORE,
The 7th July 1756.

To—COJA WAZEED.

SIR,—Relying on your Favour & Friendship for the English Nation, We take the liberty of addressing this Letter to you and intreat the Honour of your Aid & Assistance in Our present Situation, We hope by your means to be informed in what manner We may address the Nabob for his permission to re-establish Our Settlement at Calcutta.

To whom can We apply in Our present Circumstance but to those from whom We have receiv'd many marks of Favour and Protection & on whom We still depend.

Having no Munsee with Us, We are obliged to address you in English, & hope Sir you'll for that reason excuse any defect in Our Stile or Omission of the due forms of respect. What can We say more? but that we hope much from your Aid & Favourable Representation of the English to the Nabob.

We are with Respect,

SIR,

Your most Obedient humble Servants,

ROGER DRAKE, Junʳ.

CHARLES MANNINGHAM.

WILLIAM FRANKLAND.

WILLIAM MACKETT.

P. AMYATT.

THOS. BODDAM.

To—WILLIAM WATTS & MATHEW COLLET, Esqʳˢ.

GENTLEMEN,—We Congratulate your Safety at Chandernagore; in Our Situation We are to expect from you who have been so long in the Nabob's Camp the most certain account you are able to transmit Us of the Nabob's determination respecting the English Company, and what effect you imagine an application to His Principal Ministers & Great Men would have in Our Favour, for which purpose We should be glad you would let us know Who would be the properest Persons to address to, We are advised that Monickchund, Roy Doolob, Golam Hossein Cawn & Coja Wazeed are those who have the greatest influence, & in consequence of that information We forward you enclose Letters for those Officers, & desire you will endeavour to have an exact Translate of them made into the Persian Language & get them delivered with the Original. If you think it would be proper to apply to any other Durbar Officers upon this occasion, We request you will point out the Persons, or (if you judge it will answer the end) We should be glad you would address them yourselves in behalf of Our Hon'ble Employers to Interest them in Our Favours. In hopes of Opening a Correspondence with the Government, We have absolutely forbid any Hostilities being committed on any Moor's Ships or Vessels which may arrive in the River, or giving any Offence to the Country People round about us, by which pacifick Measures on Our side, We hope for a favourable turn of Affairs.

We are Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient humble Servants,

ROGER DRAKE Jun^r^

C. MANNINGHAM.

W^m^ FRANKLAND.

WILL. MACKETT.

P. AMYATT.

THOS. BODDAM.

DATED ON BOARD SHIP
"DODDALEY" OFF FULTA,
The 6th July 1756.

Letter—from ADMIRAL WATSON, dated the 21st Instant, read as follows:—

Letter from Adm^l^ Watson.

GENTLEMEN,—I receiv'd your Letter of yesterday's date late last Evening, and from the facts therein mention'd, I concur with you in opinion, that the Nabob has been guilty of the most violent Breaches of Faith and humanity on the Subjects of Great Britain; I therefore agree with you, that ample Satisfaction ought to be demanded for the insults and Barbarities lately committed on the Gentlemen at Calcutta, and am very ready, as I acquainted you before, to go with the whole Squadron to that place, if there is a possibility of carrying them there, and doing every thing in my Power to re-establish the Settlement, and accommodate matters to the honour of our Nation and the Interest of the East India Company. But before I proceeded, I thought it was my duty to represent to you the situation you must be in on this Coast in consequence of the Squadrons going to Bengal, however as you are of opinion the being left entirely destitute, in case of a French War, and without expectation of any assistance from the Squadron for a considerable time, is a circumstance now, not to be regarded, but that it should be entirely given up for the sake of the Squadron's attempting to go to Bengall, I shall immediately proceed to Ballasore Road as soon as the Ships are compleated with provisions and water, and as the despatch of this entirely depends on you, I hope you will give directions for a sufficient number of Boats to be employ'd on this Service.

I shall give the necessary Orders to receive the number of Troops you propose sending, but I must beg leave to observe, the request you have made, in case the large Ships cannot proceed up the River, is of such a nature that I cannot by any means comply with it, for you must consider how very short of the proper number of men the Squadron is already by those left sick at S^t^ Davids, and must also be left here. This deficiency I am afraid will so far put it out of my power to part with any of the troops now on board, that I shall be under a necessity of applying for a reinforcement of men for the service of the Squadron, for you must imagine, if the largest of the Ships can get no farther than Ballasore Road, for their safety, the honour of His Majesty's Flag, and for the sake of my own reputation, I can never think of suffering the men to be sent from them. Is it not very probable, if the French Squadron should arrive here, which you have reason to expect, that they having intelligence where I am gone to, will, under the presumption of the largest Ships not being able to get higher than Ballasore Road, come there in search of me? how then should I be able to defend His Majesty's Ships without men? would they not become an easy capture to the French, and thereby contribute to heap Ruin on your Affairs instead of being of any service?

I believe when you had this Article under your consideration, you was not acquainted that two hundred men will be left at the two Hospitals, add to this one hundred and fifty Lascars sent ashore for the Service of the Garrison at Fort S^t David, when I left that place, and the certainty of soon having a number of men sick for want of refreshments while in Ballasore Road. All these Considerable reductions render the Squadron already unable to do the duty they ought, and what would be expected from them.

In this situation I leave you to judge, whether the complying with your request in sending the Troops from the largest of the Ships while in Ballisore would not expose them too much, to have any dependence on them hereafter in case an Enemy should appear.

As I have already assured you my whole attention is employ'd to promote the interest of the Company, I need not repeat, it's from that consideration, I think this would be a very imprudent step, and risquing the Principal Ships of the Squadron, when there is the greatest probability of your wanting their real assistance on another service, as I have mentioned before.

I am,

FORT S^T GEORGE,
GENTLEMEN,

The 21st Aug^t 1756.
Your most Obed^t humble Servant,

CHA^S WATSON.

Resolution.—Colonel Clive being expected here in a day or two Agreed to defer the further Consideration of the foregoing Letter until his arrival.

Letter from Colonel Adlercron.

Letter from Colonel Adlercron dated the 21^st Instant in answer to the Letter wrote him the 20^th read, and Ordered to be enter'd hereafter.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILL^M PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CH^S BOURCHIER.

To—GEORGE PIGOT, Esq^r President and Governour, &^ca., Council of Fort S^t George.

GENTLEMEN,—Both myself and every Officer under my Command have more than once thought themselves greatly aggriev'd by your Conduct towards them; however, to prevent altercations (which at this unhappy conjuncture are indeed very unreasonable) we think it more advisable to lay our grievances before His Majesty, and submit to his determination whether or no our complaints are well founded. We have the more reason for taking such a step, as I have made frequent representations to the Committee of the nature of these grievances, without ever having the good fortune to meet with any redress.

I cannot help observing, Gentlemen, that you have greatly mistaken the occasion of the message in writing I sent to the Governour the 19^th Instant, had you well consider'd it, you could never have been convinced, that the particular Instance I mention'd of an Indignity offer'd to my Commission, was ill founded. It is matter of fact, that the taking of Calcutta, tho' a matter of great moment to the Company and such as was likely in its consequences to affect the King's Troops, was not communicated to me till the third day after the advise thereof was receiv'd; now whether such treatment were injurious, and an Indignity offer'd to His Majesty through me, I leave to the World to judge.

I shall only further add Gentlemen, that myself, and all His Majesty's Troops, will with the utmost chearfullness exert ourselves in support of the Interests of the East India Company however ill we may have been treated by their Servants: and will forget all our grievance, whenever any occasion offers wherein we can be of Service to you.

I am,

FORT S^T GEORGE;
21^st Aug^t 1756.

GENTLEMEN,
Your most Obedient humble servant,
JN^O ADLERCRON.

24^th.—Arrived the *Boneta Ketch* John Edwards from Batavia, last from Fort S^t David with Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Clive, Deputy Governour of Fort S^t David, Passenger.

Tuesday, The 24^th Aug. 1756.

AT A CONSULTATION, *Present*:

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ^R, *Govern^r President.*
ROBERT CLIVE.
HENRY POWNEY.
WILLIAM PERCEVAL.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
ROBERT ORME.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the Table.

Colonel Clive takes his seat.

Robert Clive, Esq^r, Deputy Governour of Fort S^t David who arriv'd here this morning now takes his seat at the Board.

The Minutes of last Consultation dated the 22^d Instant, read & Sign'd.

The advices from Bengal & the Measures that have been taken relating thereto being fully communicated to Colonel Clive, the Board proceeded to consider and deliberate on the Letter from Admiral Watson read and enter'd in the Minutes of yesterday's Consultation, and the following in answer thereto is now wrote and signed *viz^t*.—

To—CHARLES WATSON Esq^r
Rear Admiral of the Red
& Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Squadron in India.

Letter to Admiral Watson.

SIR,—We have receiv'd your Letter of the 21^st Instant and observe the several reasons you give why you Judge it would be improper to send the large Ships to Bengal, and as you are pleas'd to acquaint us that should you proceed no further than Ballasore you could not possibly land the part of the Regiment on board them. In such case We think it would be better they should not proceed, as it would weaken our Garrison here too much to continue them on board and send a sufficient Force to Bengal. We however think the retaking this so valuable a Settlement of the Company's should not be put to the Hazard this

Expedition would be subject to if undertaken by one Ship only, And are therefore to request that you will permit the *Tyger* and *Salisbury* to proceed.

We are,
Sir,
Your most Obedient humble Servants,

Fort S^T. George,
The 4^th Aug^t 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRING^R LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLIAM PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The consideration of other Measures relating to the intended expedition are deferr'd untill Admiral Watson's Answer is received.

JOHN PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILL^M PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CH^S BOURCHIER.

Thursday, the 26th Aug^t 1756 at 10 o'Clock in the forenoon.

At a Consultation, Present:
George Pigot, Esq^r, *Govern^r President.*
Robert Clive.
Henry Powney.
William Perceval.
String^r Lawrence.
Robert Orme.
John Smith.
Charles Bourchier.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the Table.

The Minutes of last Consultation, dated the 24th Instant, read & Sign'd.

The President lays before the Board a Letter from Admiral Watson, and acquaints them, that in consequence of the last Paragraph he had desired both

Mr. Watson & Mr. Pocock to be present this day at Consultation at 11 o'Clock. The letter from Admiral Watson is now read and is as follows, viz^{t}—

Letter from Admiral Watson.

GENTLEMEN,—I receiv'd yours of yesterday's date requesting me to permit the *Tyger* and *Salisbury* to proceed to Calcutta.

I have already acquainted you, if you were still of opinion, the whole Squadron should proceed on this Service, I was ready to go with them to Ballasore, and there enquire of the possibility of carrying them farther. But I offer'd it as my opinion (which was founded on the information I had learnt of the strength of the Place) that the fifty and Twenty Gun Ships would be as much force as there would be occasion for. If more is thought necessary I will send the Sloop with them, but I can never think of separating two Ships of the Line from only four, till some certain advices arrive from Europe; and having further considered this Expedition, I am apt to think, if it is delay'd till the last week in next month, there will be a much greater probability of success attending it than if the Ships were to proceed immediately, as they will then escape the rainy Season, which is allow'd by every body to be the most unhealthy part of the year, and in all appearance if the Ships were to go now, one-third of their Men would fall sick before there would be an opportunity to do any Service. However I take the liberty to mention, I think Advices should be immediately dispatch'd to M$^{r.}$ Drake, to acquaint him he will soon receive all the succour from hence that can be spared.

If from this consideration of the rainy season, or any other, that can be thought of, you think it necessary to assemble, and further debate on this Expedition, I am ready to wait on you whenever you please.

I am Gentlemen,

Your most Obedt. hum. Serv^{t}

CHA^{S} WATSON.

FORT S^{T} GEORGE,
The 25th Aug$^{t.}$ 1756.

Considered.

As Admiral Watson does not think it adviseable to part with the *Tyger* and *Salisbury*, The Board employ'd the time untill the Admiral's coming, in deliberating on the Measures to be now taken but without forming any resolution.

AT 11 O'CLOCK.

PRESENT:

ADMIRAL WATSON.

ADMIRAL POCOCK.

Deliberation on Measures.

The Board resumed the Consideration of the Measures to be taken in the present Crisis, and having long debated thereon without being able to come to any determination, Admiral Watson again assured the Board, that if they desire him he will proceed with the whole Squadron as far as Ballasore Road, and even up the River, if the Pilots will take charge of the large Ships; and then leaving the Board to determine what request to make him on this occasion withdrew with Admiral Pocock.

Admiral withdraws.

Resolved to ask for the 50 & 20 Gun ship.

After a long debate It is unanimously Resolved that Admiral Watson be desired to send the Fifty and Twenty Gun Ships down to Bengal, with about two hundred and forty Military, with the intent to retake Calcutta only, without attempting any thing more untill join'd by further succours, and that all necessary preparations be made, as expeditiously as possible, to send all the Forces that can be spared from hence with the remainder of the Squadron, if in the interim the expected Advices from Europe should not make it necessary to alter these Measures. Draught of a Letter to Admiral Watson is accordingly now settled and is as follows:—

To—CHARLES WATSON, Esqr.,
Rear Admiral of the Red
and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Squadron in India.

SIR,—We have receiv'd your Letter of the 26th, and having also had the Honour of your Company at Council yesterday, We have resolv'd to request of you at this time the Assistance only of the Fifty and Twenty Gun Ships. We are therefore to beg you will permit us to embark on them about two hundred and forty Military, and that you will be pleas'd to order them to proceed with all Expedition to Bengall, as We judge the retaking of Calcutta immediately will be of the utmost Consequence to the Company, and as you have repeatedly, as well in your Letters as Yesterday at the Board, offer'd to go down with the whole Squadron to Ballasore Road, and even up the River if the Pilots will take charge of the large Ships, We purpose making you our further Request to do so, as soon as they can be got ready, if no advices from Europe in the Interim should make such a measure improper.

We are,
SIR,
Your most obedient humble Servants,
GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGR LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS BOURCHIER.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
27t Augt 1756.

Letter to be wrote to the Pr & Co at Bengal.

Agreed to write to the President and Council at Bengal, or such of them to whose hands the Letter may come, that as We intend sending a larger Force, We think it adviseable that nothing should be attempted immediately with the Fifty and Twenty Gun Ships and the Forces sent on them, but the retaking of Calcutta, and that We think it would be adviseable not to conclude any terms with the Nabob, but if he should be inclined to treat, amuse him untill they receive further Forces or advices from Us.

Cheveaux de Frise at St David to be sent up.

Colonel Clive informs the Board that there are some Cheveaux de Frise at Fort St David which may be wanted for the Expedition.

Agreed to write to the Gentlemen at Fort St David to send them up.

Advance to the Commissary.

Agreed that Forty thousand (40,000) Arcot Rupees be advanced out of the Treasury to the Commissary to defray the charges of the Troops abroad And

Do Mily Store Kr.

That one thousand five hundred (1,500) Pagodas be advanced the Military Storekeeper for the charges of that Employ.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS BOURCHIER.

Sunday the 29th Augt 1756 in the afternoon.

AT A CONSULTATION PRESENT.

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQR *Governr, President.*
ROBERT CLIVE.
HENRY POWNEY.
WILLIAM PERCEVAL.
STRINGR LAWRENCE.
ROBERT ORME.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The Board being met according to Adjournment to read the Letters receiv'd from Bengal and to consider of Measures, The following Letters are accordingly now read *vizt* :—

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esqr
President & Governour, &ca Council.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,—Our utmost Efforts have been employ'd to dispatch to You sooner the intelligence of the Capture of Calcutta by the Moors acting under orders of Souragge Dowlat, the New Nabob, which Account we doubt not will have reach'd you before this can possibly arrive by means of Pattamars from the Shroffs or Foreign Nations. A Narrative of this unhappy Event will be in Our Opinion faithfully Related to You by Mr. Charles Manningham, which We have not Time to Commit at present to writing. The above Gentleman We depute to your Honour, &ca on the United East India Company's behalf, & require from his Representation that You will support Us with the whole Force you can obtain on Your Coast, Military & Marine, together with a sufficient Quantity of Ammunition, Cannon and all other Warlike Stores, Military & Marine, which may enable us to Re-Establish Ourselves in these Provinces, which we Esteem of the most Essential consequence to the East India Company and trade of India in General., It is highly proper to represent to your Honour, &ca, that the English here were Established by Patent from the Grand Mogull, under whose orders all Subahs should be dependant. But as your Honour, &ca, are well acquainted that this Province was overcome by Allyverde Cawn, who maintained his conquest by force of Arms, so it was possess'd by his Grandson who assumed the Title of Souragge Dowlat. Wherefore further to favour our cause and just complaints for Restitution and Right to the Priviledges granted us by the Royal Phirmaund, We are to Request you will without delay set forth to the Grand Mogull the Enormities committed by the present Nabob on a Nation that has always paid due Obedience to the Tenor of the Phirmaund, nor Infringed on its Priviledges, Requiring & entreating by his authority to Re-establish us in all our Rights, and that the loss sustain'd by the Company and Inhabitants of the Settlement may be made good. We are at present endeavouring to open a Correspondence with the Principal men, whom we are inform'd the Nabob attends to, in hopes to bring on a treaty untill we can obtain succour; & that we may in some measure be Relieved from our present Distress, being in the utmost want of all Necessaries of Life, & strict orders issued by the Government not to supply us with any Provisions. The Dutch & French are also prohibited giving us any Assistance, Their Situation appears very precarious, and we are told the French have wrote for a large Reinforcement from Pondicherry. Our determination is to keep the River untill we are inform'd of your Honour &cr's, Resolutions, and in case we are not able to procure any favour from the Government, or should be persecuted by the Enemy, so as to be obliged to stand out to sea, we shall proceed to Vizagapatam. This we think proper to mention as it may be necessary that the Ships in their way to the Bay call there for intelligence, which we shall lodge there, if we are able to procure any Conveyances, for the Ingratitude of our immediate Servants has been such, that we are drove to the necessity of doing every individual Office ourselves, nor have we been able to procure a Pattamar or a Persian writer, and it is with the utmost difficulty We have hitherto Kept together a sufficient Number of Lascars to work our Ships, and are daily apprehensive they will quit us on the first occasion. We have desired the Gentlemen at Vizagapatam, to provide & hold in readiness, what Provisions of every kind they are able to procure, to be put on board the Vessells coming down hither. We request your Honour &^{ca}, to represent a full state of all the occurrence to Rear Admiral Watson, the Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Squadron, and entreat his aid and Assistance with the Fleet, which we hope may be able to proceed hither.

Monsieur Le Beume (who had Command of one of our Advanced Batteries & defended the same very Gallantly) accompanys M^{r} Manningham, and will in case of accident happening to M^{r} Manningham, deliver you these Advices, We Esteeming M^{r} Le Beume Qualified to give you a Circumstantial Detail of our Military proceedings as also inform you of the various Stores we are in want of.

As we imagine the news of this Capture will produce very bad Consiquences in England to the Hon'ble Company's Affairs, if they receive it without being inform'd at the same time of there being a prospect of Our Resettling in Bengall, we are to request Your Honour &^{ca}, will alter Your Resolution for sending the *Delawar* to Europe, till you know the success of the Forces you may be able to assist us with.

We are

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

Your most Obedient Servants,

OFF FULTA,
The 13th July 1756.

ROGER DRAKE, JUNIOR.
C. MANNINGHAM.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
P. AMYATT AND THOMAS BODDAM.

To—The HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esq.,
President and Governour, &c., Council.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—You must naturally conclude the mind cannot Recover itself, In Our present Situation, to transmit You such a Narration of the Event pass'd by the Capture of Calcutta by the Moors, as the Circumstances thereof require to be Penned with Impartiality, which shall be my strictest endeavours to set forth, When I am eased of the Anxiety my Station has drawn on me: I am therefore now to entreat your Conclusions on my Conduct may be suspended untill the Motives, Actions & Reasons for such Our Conduct are Impartially set forth.

Sloop *Syren* off Fulta, 14th July 1756.

I am,

With great Respect,

HON'BLE SIR and SIRS,

Your most Obedient Servant,

ROGER DRAKE, Jun^{r}

The first point Debated is, whether the Survivours of the late President and Council for the Company's Affairs in Bengall, notwithstanding the Loss of all the Company's Settlements which were under their management, do still remain invested with the same Powers or Rights they had before, to direct in all matters relating to the Company, which may be transacted within the former limits of that Presidency.

After a long Debate The question being put is carried in the Affirmative by a Majority.

The President, on the first News of the Capture of Calcutta, and Colonel Clive, on his Arrival here from S^{t} David, having offer'd their services to proceed at the Head of Intended Expedition to Bengal, in case it should be thought that either the one or the other undertaking such an Expedition would be most for the Company's Advantage. It is now debated, whether it be eligible to request either and which of the President or Colonel Clive, to undertake the Expedition.

When it was first thought that such a measure might be proper, it was not known, whether those of the President & Council of Calcutta who had escaped with Life were in any Situation to take upon them and discharge the Powers of a President & Council, and in case they were not, it would have been necessary that whoever went at the head of the Expedition on behalf of the Company should have been invested with full and General Powers, not only to retake their last Settlements, but to Negociate and Conclude Treaties with the country Powers for re-establishing the Company's Affairs, and it was thought that none could be so properly entrusted with such unlimitted Powers, as one of those Gentlemen, whom the Company have placed, the one in the 1st, the other in the 2nd Station on this Coast. But is being above resolved that the Survivors of the President & Council of Bengal do still retain their Powers as such, and consequently that whatever Expedition do proceed thither must fall under their Direction: the Board are now of Opinion (in consequence of that Resolution) that it is neither necessary nor proper for either the President or Colonel Clive to proceed.

Resolved That the thanks of the Board be return'd to the President & Colonel Clive for their intended services on this occasion.

The next Point Considered is, Whether upon a re-examination of all Circumstances and Advices to this time, The Resolution already taken "to send down Two hundred & forty men on the Fifty & Twenty Gun Ships to retake Calcutta only, without proceeding any further, untill other Forces be sent down, And that as large a Force, as can be spared from the Coast, be sent down with the remainder of the Squadron, as soon as the necessary preparations can be made, in the interim the expected Advices from Europe should not make it necessary to alter those Measures" do still subsist, Or whether any and what other Measures are proper to be now taken.

Resolved.—That Admiral Watson be desired to suspend any Orders he may have given for the departure of the Fifty & Twenty Gun Ships and that the Embarkation of the Men intended to be sent on them be also Countermanded. That in case the expected Ships from England should not bring the News of a War with France, Admiral Watson be then desired to proceed down to Bengal with the whole Squadron at once. That Colonel Adlercron be desired to proceed on the Squadron with his whole Regiment and Train of Artillery, And That all preparations of Stores and Necessaries be made with all possible Expedition, in the same manner they would be, were it peremptorily Resolved such an Expedition should proceed at all Events.

The Reasons for the foregoing Resolutions are *Vizt.*

For Suspending the actual departure of the Expedition untill the Arrival of Advices from Europe.

1. The Gentlemen of the Council of Bengal in their foregoing Letter desire the whole Force that can be obtain'd, both Military & Marine, with Stores, Cannon, &^{ca}, may be sent them; such a Force as they seem to expect and think necessary (which is more fully explain'd in some private Letters) would, if sent away, now leave this Coast exposed to great hazard should a War be declared with France.

2. There is all the reason in the World to imagine, that before every preparation can be made for the whole Expedition to proceed at once, Advices may be received from Europe to clear up the Doubts in regard to Peace or War.

3. The delaying for a month or two the retaking of Calcutta, can be of no other consequence, than that it will be impossible to advise the Company by the September Ship from hence of the success of the Expedition; and tho' it is to be wished this could be done, yet as the attempting it at this time might expose their Estate to greater detriment, it is postpon'd.

For sending the Kings Troops.

1. Almost every thing in this Expedition depends on a large and well served Field Train of Artillery.

2. There are not a sufficient Number of good and proper Field Pieces in the Company's Stores.

3. Colonel Adlercron in his Letter to the Board of the 20th Instant intimates that His Majesty is unwilling his Forces should be separated.

4. The Board are therefore under the necessity of taking the Resolution they have or of wanting the main Assistance. A good Field Train.

A Letter to Admiral Watson and one to Colonel Adlercron are accordingly now wrote and sign'd and are enter'd hereafter.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS BOURCHIER.

To—Charles Watson, Esqr,
Rear Admiral of the Red and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Squadron in India.

Sir,—Since We did ourselves the Honour to address you the 27th Instant, We have receiv'd Advices from the President & Council of Bengal, requesting as large a Force as We can possibly spare. And as it would be imprudent to part with such a number of men as they think necessary, to obtain such redress as the injuries receiv'd require, while We remain uncertain whether War has been declared or Peace concluded with the French in Europe, We think it would be better to defer sending the Fifty & Twenty Gun Ships agreeable to our last request, but that if the expected Coast & Bay Ships should not bring Us the News of war, every end would be better answered by the whole Squadrons proceeding at once, which, in that case, We shall then request of you. We purpose also to desire Colonel Adlercron will go on the Expedition with his whole Regiment and Train, and for that purpose We are making all necessary preparations. We are therefore now to request you will suspend the Orders you may have given relating to the departure of the Fifty & Twenty Gun Ships, untill we received Advice from Europe, and that you will permit Us to send on board such of the Ships of the Squadron, as you may appoint, the Military Stores for the Expedition, as We can get them ready.

We are,
Sir,
Your most obedt humble Servants,

Fort St George,
The 30th Augt. 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS BOURCHIER.

To—John Adlercron, Esq^r^

Commander-in-Chief of the Land Forces in India.

Sir,—We deferr'd answering your Letter of the—Instant, untill we receiv'd such Advices from Bengal, as might lead Us to some determinate resolution in regard to the Number of Men necessary for the intended Expedition. We have accordingly receiv'd a Letter from the President and Council, by which and all other circumstances that have as yet come to our knowledge We judge that it would not be prudent to spare from hence such a Body of Military as would be necessary to do justice to the Nation and Company for the Injuries receiv'd, while We remain in state of uncertainty whether War or Peace with France have taken place in Europe; but in case our expected Ships should bring the news of the latter, We think it would then be adviseable to make a vigorous Effort to recover the Company's Settlements, and oblige the Nabob to make ample retribution for the Losses & injuries sustain'd; and in that case We purpose to request you will undertake this Expedition with your whole Regiment and Train, which joined to the Detachment sent down on the *Delawar* under the Command of Major Killpatrick, will we judge form a Body sufficient to answer the intended purposes. If these measures meet with your approbation, We beg you will immediately give Orders for preparing every thing necessary for such an Expedition, that, if on the arrival of Advices from England it should be proper, every thing may proceed accordingly.

We are,

Sir,

Your most obed^t.^ humble Servants.

Fort S^s^ George.

30th Aug^t^ 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT.

ROBERT CLIVE.

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

HENRY POWNEY.

ROBERT ORME.

WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

JOHN SMITH.

CHA BOURCHIER.

Friday the 3rd Sep^r^ 1756.

At a Consultation, Present:

George Pigot, Esq^R^, *Govern^r^ President.*

Robert Clive.

Henry Powney.

William Perceval.

Robert Orme.

John Smith.

Charles Bourchier.

Colonel Lawrence *Absent, being Indisposed.*

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the Table.

The Minutes of the 22^nd^ last Consultations both of the 29^th^ August read & sign'd.

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Letters from Adl Watson.

The two following Letters from Admiral Watson are now read. The first being in answer to a Letter wrote before the Resolutions taken at the last Consultation *Vizt*

GENTLEMEN—Last night, I receiv'd your Letter of the 27th Inst. requesting me to assist you now, only with the fifty & twenty Gun Ships, and that I would permit two hundred & Forty Troops to be embarked on board them, and give Orders for their proceeding to Bengall with the utmost Expedition. The Ships are ready and their Captains have my Orders to sail the moment the Troops are embarked, which are disposed of as in the Margin.

Salisbury	100
Bridgewater	140
	240

By the latter part of your Letter I imagine, as soon as you are acquainted the rest of the Squadron are ready for the Sea, you then purpose to make me a further request of proceeding to Calcutta with them. If that is your only reason for delaying your application, I have the pleasure to tell you all the Ships are now ready to proceed to Sea at a moment's warning, and I shall take care to keep them so.

I am Gentlemen

Your most Obedient humble Servant,

CHARLES WATSON.

FORT ST GEORGE.

The 30th Augt 1756.

GENTLEMEN,—I have receiv'd your Letter of Yesterday's date, and agreeabls to your desire, shall countermand the Orders I have given to the Captains of the Fifty and Twenty Gun Ships.

The Military Stores you request to be taken on board the Squadron must not be embarked in the large Ships, they drawing so much water already, as to make their Passage up the River Bengal extremely Hazardous, and perhaps impossible, but I have no objection to the Twenty Gun Ship receiving as much as she can with conveniency, and have given her Captain orders accordingly. At the same time, it must not be forgot that the *Marlborough* (one of your own Ships) is here, and will be able to take in a considerable quantity of all kinds of Stores.

I am,

GENTLEMEN,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

CHARLES WATSON.

FORT ST GEORGE,

31st Augt 1756.

Agreed, that as many of the Military Stores intended for the Expedition, as the Marlboro' can take in, be put on board that Ship.

Colonel Adlercron desires a Plan of Operations.

Letter wrote to him.

The President acquaints the Board that Colonel Adlercron has inform'd him he does not think the Letter wrote him the 30th Ultimo sufficiently explains the intended Expedition to Bengal, but that if the Kings Regiment should proceed, a Plan of Operations should be given him to be laid before a Council of War, whereupon it is agreed to write to him the following Letter.

To—JOHN ADLERCRON, Esqr,

Commander-in-Chief of the Land Forces in India.

SIR,—The President having acquainted us, that You think our last Addres requesting the Regiment to go to Bengal was not sufficiently explicit, & that you desired a Plan of Operations to be laid before you, We now give You our sentiments on every thing relating to that subject.

It is necessary to premise that whatever may be laid before you by us as a Plan of Operations is Subject to the approbation of the Company's Representatives in Bengal, to whose Recommendations on all Occasions we request the same attention from You, as you would have had to any Representations made by us to you while on the Coast.

We have already acquainted you that we purpose to request you will (in case the expected Advices from Europe should not induce us to alter these Measures) proceed to Bengal with the whole Regiment and all the Train of Artillery, to which will be added as great a Number of Seapoys as can be embarked on board His Majesty's Squardon.

The above Forces are intended to retake Calcutta and dispossess the Moors of Hughly, those two places lying on the Banks of the River will be rendered an easy Capture with the assistance of the Squadron, after which it is to be hoped that the Nabob may come to such terms of Accommodation as the Gentlemen in the Management of the Company's Affairs may think proper to accept.

But on the contrary should the Nabob not come to terms, it is more than probable he will move down from Muxadavad with his Army, which will make it necessary that as soon as possible the Nature of the ground about Hughly and Calcutta be well reconoitred, and the spot chosen, where it shall be judged best to engage the Nabob, who flushed with his late success may venture a Battle.

Should the Battle (as We hope it will) be attended with a defeat of the Nabob's Troops, & he notwithstanding remain unwilling to make terms, If from the Experience which will then be obtained of his force & from the Information which may be gaind of the Country, it is thought possible to proceed further, We are of opinion that this Expedition should not finish untill he either come to terms or that his Capital of Muxadavad be destroyed.

Our sense of the immense loss which the Company's Estate has sustained at Calcutta obliges us to Stipulate, that, as soon as that place is retaken, the whole property of it be deliver'd untouch'd to the Company's Representatives for the Company's benefit.

And as the Company will be at a vast Expence by this Expedition, It is necessary that one-half of all the other captures which may be made be appropriated to the Company's Benefit. We say the Company's benefit alone, for altho the loss of private persons by this Calamity may be reckond at £400,000, Yet nothing of this one-half is intended for their benefit, and they must remain in their present situation till they can find Relief from their Superiors.

As the utmost dispatch is necessary considering the lateness of the season, We request the Stores may be immediately embarked, and as a litterary Correspondence on the details of this Expedition will protract the dispatch, We shall be glad to confer with you, whenever you have any thing necessary to Communicate.

We are,
Sir,
Your most obedient humble Servants,
GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
H. POWNEY.
R. ORME.
JOHN SMITH.

Fort St. George,
3rd Sept. 1756.

Colonel Clive and Messrs. Orme & Smith for making preparation & for the Expedition and for the management of the Boats.

That all the stores and necessarys for the intended Expedition may be prepared without loss of time, Colonel Robert Clive, Robert Orme and John Smith Esq^{rs}, are appointed a Committee to manage and give directions concerning the same, and all orders signed by any two of them is to be of as much force as if signd by the whole. The said committee are also empowerd during the expedition to take upon them the entire management of the Boats, and to give such directions relating thereto, as they may think for the Benefit of the service and the publick.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILL^m PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHA^s BOURCHIER.

Monday the 6th Sept^r 1756.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ^R., *Govern^r President.*
STRING^R LAWRENCE.
ROBERT ORME.
JOHN SMITH.
ROBERT CLIVE.
HENRY POWNEY.
WILLIAM PERCEVAL.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the Table.

The Minutes of last Consultation, dated the 3rd Instant, read & Sign'd.

This morning arriv'd here Monsieur LeBeaume, a French Gentleman, deputed with M^r Manningham by M^r Drake, &^ca, Council of Bengal at Fulta, to represent to us the Situation of Affairs, and advise the necessary steps to be taken, and brought with him a General Letter from M^r Charles Manningham which is as follows.

To—The HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esq^r.,
President & Governer, &^ca,
Council of Fort S^t George.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

I had the honour to forward from Vizagapatam and Bandamalanka two copies of the dispatches from Bengal advising your Honour, &^ca, of the Governor & Council having deputed me with Mon^s Le Beaume to entreat the aid & succours of your Presidency in order to effect the Re-establishment of our settlement in Calcutta. I had flatter'd myself with hopes of a speedy journey, but the violent rains in this part of the Country, together with a failure in our Pallankeen Bearers (from the difficulty & fatigue in travelling thro' a Country over-flow'd) impedes our Passage to such a degree we greatly fear our arrival at Madras will be very late. Considering therefore the pressing occasion of our being deputed to Your Honour, &^ca, & the necessity of the Bengal Affairs, which require our greatest diligence being exerted, we have been induced (in earnest hopes of obtaining the desired end) to pursue the remainder of the journey separately; Your Honour, &^ca will therefore receive this by M^r Le Beaume, a Gentleman fully capable of acquainting you with the nature of the supplies needfull and operations necessary to be perform'd.

I have furnish'd M^r Le Beaume with Bearers & some Seapoys well acquainted with the Road, and have great hopes by the favour of M^r Moracin to obtain the assistance of Horses at the different Settlements under his command in this Province, which may enable Mr Le Beaume to proceed with greater expedition, & prove a resource in case the Palankeen Boys are incapable of pursuing the Journey.

MASSULIAPATAM PETTAH,

28th Augt 1756.

I have the honour to subscribe myself

with great Respect,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

CHARLES MANNINGHAM.

The President acquaints the Board that by the Conversation he has had with Mr Le Beaume he does not find he has anything to offer that can give any new lights into the Bengal Affairs.

Agreed to wait Mr Manningham's arrival.

Monsieur Le Beaume being a Frenchman the Board do not think it adviseable to give him any insight into their Affair or Intentions, and as he has nothing more to offer than has already been communicated, it is agreed to proceed no further untill Mr Manningham's arrival.

100 Pag° to be given Mr Le Beaume.

Monsieur Le Beaume having been sent up by the Gentlemen at Bengal on the Company's Account, and being in want of all manner of necessary's, having lost everything at Calcutta, agreed that One hundred Pagodas be given him to provide Apparell, &ca.

Letter from the Committee appointed to prepare & Embark the Stores for the Expedition, and to direct the Employment of the Boats, is now read as enter'd hereafter containing a Plan for new Regulating the management of the Boats *Vizt.*

That the Boats be given to the former Owners who are to be Answerable for the Crew and Service of every particular Boat.

That instead of the usual rate of six Fanams, seven Fanams ꝑ Trip be now paid by those who employ the Boats.

That to reimburse the Company for the charges they have been at in rebuilding and refitting the Boats, two Fanams ꝑ Trip be reserved for their use out of the above mentioned seven Fanams ꝑ Trip, And that when the Boats are employed for the Company, three instead of two Fanams be reserved as above out of the seven.

All which the Board approve.

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GEORGE PIGOT.

ROBERT CLIVE.

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

HENRY POWNEY.

ROBERT ORME.

WILLM PERCEVAL.

JOHN SMITH.

CHS BOURCHIER.

Wednesday, the 8th Septr 1756.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQR. *Governour President.*
ROBERT CLIVE.
HENRY POWNEY.
WILLIAM PERCEVAL.
ROBERT ORME.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.
COL. LAWRENCE *Absent, being Indisposed.*

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the Table.

The Minutes of last Consultation, dated the 6h Instant, read & Sign'd.

General Letters read *Vizt*

General Letters from Vizagapatam.

No 129 From Mr. John Lewin Smith, Provisional Chief, &ca Council at Vizagapatam, dated the 15th August, that advising that the *Syren* Sloop arriv'd there that morning from Bimblepatam, and as the Company's Servants at Bengal have earnestly requested their Assistance, and Mr. Manningham has represented them to be in very necessitous Circumstances, and considering also that the Troops sent on the *Delawar* may encrease their Difficultys, they therefore purpose returning the Sloop in a few days with Rice & Stores.

From Ingeram.

No 130 From Foss Westcott, Esqr. Resident at Ingeram, dated the 22nd August, advising that at the request of Mr. Charles Manningam he is preparing to send what provisions & Stores he can to Bengal, and has Freighted a Vessell for that purpose, which he hopes to dispatch in six or seven days. Cloth on hand Embaled 160 Bales at the wash 183 Corge 16 P.

From Watts & Collet at Chandernagore.

Messrs. Beecher &ca at Dacca.

No 131 From Messrs. Watts & Collet at Chandernagore with Copies of Letters between them and the President & Council of Bengal at Fulta. And No 132 From Mr. Richard Beechar, &ca. Council at Decca, which are as follows.

To—THE HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esqr., &ca Council of Fort St George.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,—Enclosed is a Packet for the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, which we have sent under a flying Seal for your perusal, and beg you will close and forward it by the most expeditious Conveyance.

We likewise send enclos'd Duplicates of Our Letters of the 6th & 7th Instant to Your Honour, &ca. and are with Respect.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,
Your most Obedient humble Servants,

CHANDERNAGORE, *The 18th July 1756.*

WILLM WATTS.
M. COLLET.

To—The HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, Esqr., CHARLES MANNINGHAM, WILLIAM FRANKLAND, WILLIAM MACKETT, PETER AMYATT and THOMAS BODDAM.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,—We have receiv'd your Favour of the 6th Instant from on Board the *Doddaley off Fulta* and are obliged to you for your Congratulations for Our Safety. As we were Prisoners all the Time of Our stay in the Camp, it was little we could learn of the Nabob's intentions concerning the English. Only We heard from all quarters that he was Greatly irritated against your Honour, &ca, particularly the Governour, against whom since the taking of the Place, his expressions have been very harsh, and He has Threatened both French & Dutch with exterpation if they assist you with any Provisions, therefore We are without any hopes that an application to the Great Men will have any Effect at present, though had Your Honour, &ca, thought proper to Treat before the Nabob reach'd Calcutta, We are pretty certain a sum of money would have made all easy, prevented the Loss of the Settlement & the ruin of many Thousands, & We wrote to Your Honour, &ca, to that purpose when we were of Houghley, the only Opportunity We had while in the Camp, and are inform'd the Letter came to hand; and a proof that the Nabob's intent was to accommodate matters, was that He touch'd none of the Company's Effects at Cossimbazar except the Warlike Stores; should the Nabob think fit to permit the English to return & resettle, We are afraid it would not be only with the loss of all their Privileges but on such Shamefull Terms that Englishmen We hope will never consent to. And we likewise think that after Your Honour & the majority of you had quitted Fort William, which still held out, your Power as a Governour & Council from that moment ceas'd, and We are of Opinion that you have no authority to indemnify us for acting by your Orders, in case Your future measures should not be approv'd of by Our Hon'ble masters, for the above reasons We have declined delivering the Letters you sent us.

We hope you will on serious Consideration excuse Us for being so cautious in an affair of such Consequence.

We are with Respect,

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obedt hble Servants,

Chandernagore,
July 8th 1756.

WILLIAM WATTS.
M. COLLET.

To—William Watts & Matthew Collet, Esqrs.

Gentlemen,—Your Letter of the 8th Instant came to Hand this morning, and We now Protest in behalf of Our Hon'ble Employers against you, William Watts & Matthew Collet, Esqrs., for declining to obtain Translation & delivery of the Letters enclosed under your Cover to Monick Chund, Roy Doolab, Golam Hossein Cawn & Coja Wazeed, for all damages & Wrongs which may ensue by the deprivation of Our Privileges as contained in the Royal Phirmaund, and do now possitively direct you to follow the Instructions We gave you in Our Letter of the 6th Instant, having been advised to take that step & esteeming it ourselves as advantageous and for the Interest of the Hon'ble Company.

We are Gentlemen,

Your most Obdt hum. Servts.

Off Fulta;
The 13th July 1756.

ROGER DRAKE JUNR.
C. MANNINGHAM.
WM FRANKLAND.
WILL. MACKETT.
P. AMYATT.
THOS BODDAM.

To—the Hon'ble Roger Drake, Esq^{r}.,

Charles Manningham,
William Frankland,
William Mackett, Esq^{rs}.
Peter Amyatt,
Thomas Boddam,

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,—We have receiv'd your Letter or Protest dated the 13th of July 1756, and are surprised you should Protest against Us for all Damages & Wrongs which may ensue by the deprivation of Our Privileges as contained in the Royal Phirmaund when We think We can with more propriety say that the Majority of you Gentlemen deprived Our Hon'ble Masters of their Privileges as contained in the Royal Phirmaund, when you incensed the Nabob to come against Calcutta, and then deserted the Place and fled on Board your Ships, which in all probability and by all Accounts was the Occasion of the Loss of the Place, which might have been defended if you had staid, and by which Step We are of Opinion you abdicated your several Stations and are now no longer to be deem'd Servants of the Company, but setting the above aside if We thought it had been for Our Hon'ble Masters Interest, We should not have hesitated a moment getting the Letters Translated & delivered, but if you at this Time look on yourselves as a Governour & Council you must of course allow Us Our Stations, in consequence of which We are persuaded We have a right to dissent and make Our Representations against any of your measures which We think contrary to the Interest of Our Employers, As an Application at Present We are of Opinion is, and that it would be more adviseable to wait to see what Steps the Governour & Council of Madras may be able to take to re-establish the Company's Affairs and Credit in Bengal. We having advised them of the taking of Calcutta the 3rd Instant by express Cossids, therefore We think an application will be more Efficacious and made with a better Grace when any Force arrives from thence than it can at present, whereas should the Nabob now Permit you to return into a ruined and defenceless Town, it may be with an Intent to replunder the Place and Secure your Persons, for We are of Opinion the Nabob is not to be Trusted after things have gone the Length they have, and as a further reason to imagine that your return may be attended with a risque, is the harsh & inveterate manner in which the Nabob has express'd himself against Mr. Drake.

We are Credibly informed that when you wrote Us, you made Application to those who had more Interest and Power to give Weight to your proposals than We, who by great Intercession had but just obtained our Liberty. On Our coming to the knowledge of this, Our intermedling We thought might have been rather hurtfull than any ways of Service, however, if after the reasons we have given you are still of Opinion that the Letters you sent Us ought to be Translated and delivered, We shall agreeable to your desire get them done and send them to the respective Persons directed, except Golam Hossein Cawn, who is turned out of the Province. We have no Power or Interest of Our Own to make Applications, if We had, We should certainly have before made use of it for the Service of Our Hon'ble Employers.

We are with Respect,

Chandernagore,
14th July 1756

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,
Your most Obedient humble Servants,

W. WATTS.

M. COLLET.

To—the Hon'ble George Pigot, Esq^{r}.,
President &^{ca} Governour Council of Fort S^{t}. George.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,—This is design'd to inform you of a most melancholly & Surprising Revolution in the Hon'ble Company's Settlements here in Bengall, having been all taken by the Nabob Seerajah Dowlat. As we have not received the least Advice from any of the Gentlemen of Calcutta of a later Date than the 9th of June, we are obliged to depend on the French for a particular Account of the taking of Fort William. We now enclose Your Honour, &c., the account received by Monsieur Courtin, the French Chief here, from their Secretary at Chandernagore. We see no Reason to doubt the Authenticity of it, more especially as every material Circumstance is confirm'd by the Moors, who have from the beginning assured Us that the cause of the Nabob's Anger against the English proceeded from the Governour & Council having given protection to one Kissendoss who had been the Naib of this City. He retired to Calcutta in March last with great Riches, part of which are said to belong to the Widow of Nowagies Mawmud Khan, who died in November last, & whose Riches Seerajah Dowlat claim'd on his coming to the Subaship of Bengal; when the Nabob sent a Perwanah to demand him, Mr. Drake tore the Perwanah & threw it in the Face of his Messenger. This Insult provoked Seerajah Dowlat to such a Degree that they say he took an Oath to drive the English out of Bengal which he very soon put in Execution as you'll observe Cossimbuzar was delivered without firing a Gun & Fort William only resisted him 3 Days. We take the Liberty to inclose Your Honour, &ca., Copies of our Consultations of the 27th & 28th Ultimo, when we were obliged to surrender our Factory & ourselves Prisoners to Seerajah Dowlat, from whom we are in hopes to obtain our Liberty as he has already releas'd Messrs. Watts & Collet, &ca.. If we are so happy as to get our Liberty, our present Design is to proceed to Madras when we shall depend on your Honour, &ca., Council's Protection & kind assistance having lost everything we had in the World except a few Cloaths. We would have sent you Copies of our Consultations & Letters from the beginning of the Dispute, but as this goes by a Pattamar it would make too large a Packet. We design by a French Ship bound to Europe which is to leave Chandernagore next Month, to address ourselves to the Hon'ble Court of Directors & give them the best Account we are able of the miserable State of their Affairs in Bengal. As we flatter ourselves your Honour, &ca., Council will not think us any way to blame in delivering up our Factory after the surrender of Fort William, we are to request your kind representation of our case should you have an opportunity of writing the Court of Dirrectors before We have the Pleasure to see you. As by all Accounts the Riches Mr Drake, &ca., have carried off with them are immense, We hope our Hon'ble Employers will be in some Measure indemnified for the great loss they must have suffer'd by the taking their Settlements in Bengal.

We are with great Respect,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

Your most Obedient humble Servants,

R. BEECHER.

LUKE SCRAFTON.

THOM. HYNDMAN.

SAMUEL WALLER.

DACCA,

The 13th July 1756.

* * * * * * *

GEORGE PIGOT.

ROBERT CLIVE.

HENRY POWNEY.

ROBERT ORME.

WILLM PERCEVAL.

JOHN SMITH.

CHS BOURCHIER.

Tuesday, the 14th Septr 1756.

At a Consultation Present:

George Pigot, Esqr., *Governr, President.*
Robert Clive.
Henry Powney.
William Perceval.
Stringr. Lawrence.
Robert Orme.
John Smith.
Charles Bourchier, *Absent.*

* * * * * * * *

To—Charles Watson, Esqr.,
Rear Admiral of the Red and
Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Squadron in India.

Sir,—As it will give great satisfaction to the Gentlemen at Bengal to hear that all the preparations in our Power to re-establish them in Calcutta are now in pretty good readiness, and as it will be necessary the Pilot Sloops should be in waiting that the Ships may meet with no delay on their arrival in Ballasore Road, We are to request the favour of you to let the *King Fisher* Sloop proceed thither and to call at Vizagapatam in her way, where if she should not meet with Mr. Drake, or some of the Gentleman belonging to Bengal, she may doubtless have Intelligence from the Gentlemen at that Settlement of the Situation of Affairs in Bengal. We are at the same time to beg that you will permit the Sloop to take what Musket Ammunition she can on board together with some small Cordage & a Hawser or two for the use of the Pilot Sloops.

We are,
Sir,
Your most obedient humble Servants,

Fort St George,
The 16th Septr 1756.

George Pigot.
R. Clive.
Henry Powney.
Robert Orme.
John Smith.

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16. Sail'd Sloop *Catharina Elizabeth, Elphinstone* for Sadras.
17. Receiv'd the following Letter from Admiral Watson:—

To—The President & Council of Fort St George.

Gentlemen,—Last night I received your favour of Yesterday's Date. I shall give the Captain of the *King Fisher* Sloop Orders to put in execution what you have requested, and as soon as the Stores are on board you propose sending, she will sail immediately.

I am,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient humble Servant,

Fort St George,
The 17th Septr 1756.

Chas Watson.

Tuesday, the 21st Septr 1756.

AT A CONSULTATION PRESENT:

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQR. *Governr President.*
ROBERT CLIVE.
HENRY POWNEY.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
STRINGR LAWRENCE.
ROBERT ORME.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the Table.

Letter from Colonel Adlercron.

Letter from Colonel Adlercron, dated the 20th Instant, with the Minutes of a Council of War held the same day read as follows:—

To—GEORGE PIGOT, Esqr President & Governour &ca Council of Fort St George.

GENTLEMEN,—For an answer to your two favours of the 30th past and the 3rd Instant, I refer you to the determination of my Council of War, a copy of which I enclose you herewith.

I am,

GENTLEMEN,

Your most Obedient humble Servant.

JOHN ADLERCRON.

ST THOMAS MOUNT,
The 20th Septr 1756.

At a Council of War held at St Thomas Mount near Fort St George the 20th Day of September 1756.

PRESENT:

COLONEL JOHN ADLERCRON, *Commander-in-Chief.*
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL SAMUEL BAGSHAW.
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL STRINGER LAWRENCE.
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL ROBERT CLIVE.
MAJOR FRANCIS FORDE.
CAPTAIN WILLIAM HISLOP, *Commandant of the Detachment of the Royal Artillery.*

Two Letters, the one dated the 30th August, the other the 3rd September 1756, from the President and Gentlemen of the General Council to Colonel Adlercron, were read; as were also the Instructions which the Colonel receiv'd from His Majesty.

The Colonel then referr'd to the Council, whether consistent with those Instructions he can undertake to transport His Majesty's Troops under his Command from the Coast of Choromandel to any other part of India; and whether in the present distress'd situation of Affairs at Bengal he ought to go thither.

The Council are of opinion that the Colonel may, and that, in consequence of the application made to him by this Presidency, he ought so to do.

The Colonel then submitted to the consideration of the Council the three following requests made to him by the General Council in their Letter of the 3rd September.

That he will assure them that on any future representation from them, he will be ready to return on the Coast should the situation of their affairs make such a request necessary.

2nd That as soon as Calcutta is retaken, the whole property of it be deliver'd untouch'd to the Company's Representatives for the Company's Benefit.

3. That one-half of all the other Captures, which may be made, be appropriated to the Company's benefit.

In regard to the first request the Council are of Opinion, that (as the Presidency at Bengal are acknowledged by the Gentlemen here to be independent of them, and as this Presidency have particularly recommended to the Colonel to have the same attention to the recommendations of the Company's Representatives at Bengal as he would have to any representations made to him here), the Colonel cannot take upon him to give any such assurance: and that the two Presidencies must determine that point between themselves.

With respect to the two other requests, The Council are of Opinion, that no answer can be given but in concurrence with the Fleet, as they will probably be concern'd in some, in not all, of the intended operations.

JNO ADLERCRON.

SAMUEL BAGSHAW.

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

ROBERT CLIVE.

FRANO FORDE.

WILLM HISLOP.

A true Copy.

JNO CARNAC,

Secry

Debate of the Bengal Affairs.

The Board having had under consideration the intended Expedition to Bengal and the Advices lately received from Europe and thereupon the Question being put.

Whether upon the news receiv'd from Europe it is proper to undertake the Expedition to Bengal.

Expedition to be undertaken.

It is unanimously the opinion of the Board that the Expedition be undertaken, as the approach of the ensuing Monsoon will oblige the Squadron to leave the Coast whether they go to Bengal or no, and the Rains of the same Monsoon will prevent any operations in the Field untill the month of January, by which time it is hoped that the desired Success will be obtain'd at Bengal.

It was then taken into consideration what Resolution would be necessary in case, during the Expedition to Bengal, News of a War with France should arrive, and the Coast become again the Seat of War, if at that time the Sucesses that We may have had at Bengal should not have proved sufficient to reduce the Nabob to a Compliance with such terms as will be necessary for the secure and proper reestablishment of the Company's Settlements in his province.

In such case the Board are of Opinion that it would be imprudent to risque the certain possession of the Company's Establishments on this Coast, for the Chance of Advantages which if not obtained by that time will be attended with great doubt of success in Bengal, where the Company's Loss cannot be greater than it is at present, and it is therefore determined that if the situation of Affairs in future should require the recalling of the Troops We may now send, That the Troops shall be so recall'd; and if the Fort of Calcutta when retaken shall be deem'd with a proper Garrison tenable, that Garrison and a Guard Ship be left there after the recalling the Troops.

It was then taken into consideration by the Board how far it is consistent with the Respect due from one Presidency to another to keep a Body of Troops sent to Bengal under our own Directions instead of putting them under that of the Presidency of Bengal as the Company's Establishment of the respective Presidencies makes them independent of each other.

The Board are of Opinion that too great Respect cannot be paid to every Establishment made by Our Hon'ble Masters, but in the present circumstances, if ever it appears to them that the great Law of necessity must overrule all others, and as the necessity of keeping what the Company have is evidently and infinitely the Superior Consideration, the Board are unanimously of Opinion that the Troops now to be sent to Bengal be kept under their own Power. And as this is thought by the Board a justification sufficient for their Conduct in the present measures, they decline corroborating it with the Company's declaration at the loss of Madras, when they declared that none of the Gentlemen of this Presidency remain'd in their Service after the loss of the Place. This consideration as equals only to the Gentlemen of Bengal, the Board do not pretend to determine on.

The above reasons make it appear Conclusive to the Board that the present Expedition be put under the Command of an Officer in the Service of the Company; and this is thought to be made more materially necessary as thereby the Steps which in case of the expected Success may be thought proper to be taken for the benefit of the Company's Interest will be indisputably placed in the Power of their Servants who will be subject to our Orders.

Another consideration that evinces the necessity of putting the Expedition under the Command of one of the Company's Officers is, that in case the Nabob should not by Treaty make ample Reparation for the immense Damages the Company have sustain'd by his Violences, it is the Intention of the Board to reimburse the Company as far as possible by Reprisals. But as the Board are uncertain whether the Laws direct any and what distribution of things acquired by Arms, The Duty they owe the Company demands that a Matter of such Importance be not left in doubt and liable to Contest when they may have it in their Power to secure the property of such Acquisitions to the Company by employing their own Officers and Troops.

It is therefore thought from the foregoing Reasons absolutely necessary to employ the Companys Officers & Troops.

The number of Troops necesary to be sent being now taken under consideration.

Agreed that Six hundred Rank & File be sent and One hundred of the Train.

And as Colonel Clive has before offer'd his Services, he is now desired on many Considerations to accept the Command which he very readily does.

Agreed that Mr. Smith (one of the members of this Board) and Mr. John Walsh be join'd with Colonel Clive as Deputy from this Board for Conducting the Expedition, And that Mr. Maunsell accompany them to assist under their Directions.

Mr. Smith being present accept the charge with alacrity.

The Board then having taken under Consideration the Instructions and Powers necessary to be given to Messrs. Clive, Smith & Walsh. After much Debate, in which the retaining the Troops of the Expedition under our Command was the Basis of the Arguments, It is agreed that the Powers and Instructions so to be given be as follows.

First.—That the Gentlemen at Calcutta be desired by us to form a Plan of a Treaty which the Deputys be directed to abide by the tenour of, and make the Basis of their Correspondence and transactions with the Nabob.

Secondly.—That Colonel Clive be directed to proceed to all such Hostilitys as he thinks will most likely bring the Nabob to those terms untill he has had the success to do so, Or untill he find utterly untill impracticable, Or he is recalled by us.

Thirdly.—That the Deputys be desired to receive and attend to the Advice of the Gentlemen at Bengal, to weigh the same maturely, and if they think proper to deviate from it in any respect that they have the Power so to do, but on Assigning Reasons to us to be transmitted to the Company.

Fourthly.—That the Deputys be directed to re-establish the Gentlemen of Bengal in Calcutta as soon as his successes shall render it proper, and that they do when the Place is in a Sufficient State of Security put those Gentlemen in Possession of all such part of the Company's Effects as shall remain with them, and be of no further use to them. And that in case the Nabob should agree to a reasonable Treaty with the English, that they do put all the Possessions acquired by that Treaty under their management.

This being Agreed upon as the Basis of the Instructions and Powers to be given to the Deputys.

Agreed to write to Colonel Adlercron that We return him thanks for his readiness to move with his Regiment to Bengal, but as the Power of recalling him at an Emergency seems to be attended with an uncertainty of which our own Situation will not admit of the least, And as we should run the risque of incurring the severest displeasure of Our Masters should We put the property of the acquisitions that may be made in Bengal into any manner of doubt or Contest, when We can keep it in our own Power to reimburse the Losses they have Sustain'd with such Acquisitions, by employing their own Officers & Troops, We do therefore purpose sending a Body of the Company's own Troops to Bengal. But at the same time that it will give Us a particular Satisfaction if he will let any part of His Majesty's Regiment be join'd to them provided they are Commanded by an Officer who by his Rank can serve under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel Clive, And that we request he will let His Majesty's Artillery with the Officers & Train thereunto belonging to proceed down on the Service of the Expedition, as by the nature of the Nabob of Bengals Forces We think that the Success of the Expedition will greatly depend on the Service of the Field Pieces, acquainting him at the same time that we have Eight Six Pounders now in Garrison and expect several more by the first Ship from Bombay to replace His Majesty's Train.

Agreed to write to the Gentlemen at Fort S^t David to send up Five Companys of the Seapoys there, who are to march overland under the Command of Kenjah Sing, and that they also Draught from their Garrison Seventy of the Military and thirty of the Train, and send them hither by Sea Conveyance, with Captains Campbell & Callender of the Military, and Lieutenant Brooke of the Train.

To write to S^t David for some seapoys Military and Train.

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GEORGE PIGOT.

ROBERT CLIVE.

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

HENRY POWNEY.

ROBERT ORME.

WILL^M PERCEVAL.

JOHN SMITH.

CHA^S BOURCHIER.

22. Sent the following Letter to Colonel Adlercron.

To—JOHN ADLERCRON Esq^{r}, Commander-in-Chief of the Land Forces in India.

SIR,—We have receiv'd the favour of your Letter dated the 20th Instantt enclosing Copy of the Deliberations of the Council of War of the same day, to which you have been pleased to refer us.

We have a very sincere sense of your readiness to assist the Company's Affairs express'd by your Consent to let the Regiment proceed to Bengal.

But as the intention of warring with the Nabob of Bengal is by no means the only object of our Considerations in sending our Troops there, So these other Considerations have determined Us to think that there is now an absolute necessity of putting all the Troops which we may send under an Officer in the Service of the Company, who we know will implicitly obey the Orders he may receive from Us.

The first consideration that has lead Us to this Determination is, that the Situation of our Affairs and the future circumstances with which they are threatened make it absolutely necessary that Whatever Troops may now be sent do remain under our own Command, So as that we may be certain of their returning to us at the very first warning without attention to any Representations by whomsoever made. The Company's Letters by the Ships just arrived convince us of the necessity of this Resolution. Now Sir to you we can only make Requesst, our own Officer we know we can certainly command. In Times of such critical Importance, We beg you will permit Us, with all deference, to determine to be at an absolute Certainty on the Power of recalling the Troops we may send.

The Second Consideration that evinces to us the necessity of putting this Expedition under the Command of one of our own Officers is that our Intentions are in case the Nabob will not by Treaty make ample Reparation for the immense Damages the Company have sustained by his Violences, We say it is our intention then to reimburse the Company as well as we can by whatever Reprisals we shall be able to make. We can in this Consideration likewise only make requests to you, but, as we do not pretend to be competent Judges of the Laws in such Cases We may venture to say that we believe there are no regular ones, we shall run the risque of incurring the severest Displeasure of Our Masters should we, when we could keep it in our own Power to reimburse the Losses they have sustained with the acquisitions made by the Troops whom their money is to maintain, should we, we say, put the property of those acquisitions into any manner of Doubt or Contests.

Permit us Sir at the same time to acquaint you that it will give us a particular Satisfaction, if you shall think proper to let any part of His Majesty's Regiment be join'd to our Troops on this Expedition, provided they are commanded by an Officer who by his Rank can serve under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel Clive, whom we have appointed to the Command of this Expedition.

We are necessitated in behalf of the Welfare of this Expedition & of the East India Company's Affairs to request of you to permit His Majesty's Train of Artillery, with Captain Hislop's Command to proceed with Colonel Clive, as the success of this Expedition will in the greatest measure depend on the Service of the Artillery, of which our own Store is not sufficient by the Disappointment of those intended for us by the *Dodington*, & the whole of a large Train of Artillery sent to Bombay and detained hitherto by Mr. Bourchier.

We have the Honour to acquaint you that we have in the Garrison Eight 6-Pounders & expect several more from Mr. Bourchier by the first conveyance which will be ready to replace those, we now request of you, and which are already embarked on the *Marlboro.*

Permit us to request as the lateness of the Season now makes every hour of Consequence to be favour'd with an immediate answer to this address.

We are,
SIR,
Your most obed^{t} humble Serv^{ts},

G. PIGOT, &^{ca}, Council.

FORT S^{T} GEORGE,
The 22^{d} Sept^{r} 1756.

Wednesday, the 22nd Sept. 1756.

AT A CONSULTATION, PRESENT:

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ^R, *Governour President.*
ROBERT CLIVE.
HENRY POWNEY.
WILLIAM PERCEVAL.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
ROBERT ORME.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The President acquaints the Board that the Select Committee have receiv'd a Letter from the Hon'ble Court of Directors by the *Chesterfield* and *Walpole* dated the 13th February last of which the following is the 3d Paragraph *viz^t*:—

> " In the present dangerous Situation of Affairs we have thought it highly " necessary to appoint a Select Committee at Fort William with " Similar Powers to those you and the Select Committee at Bombay " are invested with, to transact Affairs and take such measures as " shall best conduce to the Protection and Preservation of the " Company's Estate, Rights & Priviledges. The said Committee is " composed of Roger Drake, Esq^r, &^ca, with whom therefore as well " as with the Select Committee at Bombay you are to correspond & " act in concert for the General & particular Protection of the " Company's Trade, Possessions and Rights wherever & whenever " they may be in danger.

The Board being of Opinion that the Transactions for re-establishing the Company in their Rights & Priviledges at Bengal do properly fall under the Direction of the Secret Committee by virtue of the foregoing Paragraph. It is therefore now referred to the said Committee to do therein as they shall think proper, and that they may be fully inform'd of the steps that have already been taken.

Order'd that a Copy of the Letters receive'd and sent and of all the resolutions of Council any ways relative thereto be delivered to the said Commitee.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILL^M PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHA^S BOURCHIER.

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28th

Received from Admiral Watson the following Letter.

GENTLEMEN,—By a report made me this morning of the defects of the *Kent*, I find she is in so bad a condition that she cannot proceed to Sea, without dismounting several of her Guns from her extreme parts and clearing her of all Stores, and I believe part of her Provisions, and even then she will be a very improper Ship to encounter a Gale of Wind; however as you are desirous the whole Squadron should proceed on the Expedition to Bengal, and as it's a Service of the utmost consequence to the Companys Affairs, I am willing to risque the *Kent.* But I must first desire you will not think of sending home the *Chesterfield* at this time, but order her Captain to receive such Stores and Provisions as is necessary to be taken out of the *Kent,* and indeed most of the Ships must part with before they proceed up the River Bengal.

I make no doubt Gentlemen, as the safety of a number of His Majesty's Subjects depends on the detention of this Ship, you will readily comply with my request, and I beg leave to say I was sorry to hear you had any thoughts of sending home the *Chesterfield* before the Expedition was over, as the number of Troops I hear you intend to send could not have been carried without her Assistance.

I am, Gentlemen,

Fort S^T^ George, Your most Obedient humble Servant,

28th Sep^t^ 1756. CHA^S^ WATSON.

To—the President & Council of Fort St George.

28th Sent the following answer to Admiral Watson.

To—Charles Watson, Esq^r.^
Rear Admiral of the Red and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Squadron in India.

Sir,—We have been favour'd with your Letter of this date, and are under very great concern to hear the *Kent* is in so bad a Condition as to oblige you to ease her by dismounting part of her Guns and clearing her of some of her Stores. The *Marlboro* who is intended to proceed with the Squadron to Bengal will We believe take in near all the Stores We have to send, so that the *Walpole* which is the largest of our Ships can doubtless take every thing aboard that you may see proper to Transport from the *Kent.* The Guns and Weighty Stores will be of service to her as we should otherwise be obliged to send a large quantity of Ballast aboard. We please ourselves with the thoughts that these two Ships will answer all the purposes you mention, should they not, there is a private Ship now in the Road which might be hired for a Storeship on His Majesty's Account, which We take the Liberty to acquaint you with, as We think it would be very detrimental to the Company's Affairs to deprive them of the benefit of a Cargo from hence at this time.

We are,
Sir,
Your most Obedient humble Servants,

Fort S^T^ George, GEORGE PIGOT.
The 28th Sept^r^ 1756. ROBERT CLIVE.
STRING^R^ LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILL^M^ PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHA^S^ BOURCHIER.

29th.

Arrived His Majesty's Ship *Bridgwater* Captain Henry Smith from Fort St David with a General Letter from thence dated 28th Instant.

At a Consultation, Present:

George Pigot, Esqr, *Governour President.*
Robert Clive.
Henry Powney.
William Perceval.
Stringer Lawrence.
Robert Orme.
John Smith.
Charles Bourchier.

The Book of Standing Orders lying on the Table.

The Minutes of last Consultation dated the 29th Ultimo read & Sign'd.

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Commission to Colonel Clive.

The President acquaints the Board that the Secret Committee think it necessary & therefore desires that the Board will grant a Commission appointing Robert Clive, Esqr, Commander-in-Chief of all the Troops sent and to be sent on the Expedition to Bengal, and in case of his Death or Absence, that Major James Killpatrick succeed him in the said Command.

Order'd that a Commission be drawn out accordingly.

Report from the Secret Committee of money wanted for the Bengal Expedition.

The President also reports from the Secret Committee that Four Lacks of Rupees will be necessary to be sent with the present Expedition to Bengal, and that Forty thousand Rupees and three thousand two hundred and fifty Pagodas are now wanted for the charges of the Troops.

Money order'd to be issued accordingly.

Agreed that Four hundred thousand Arcot Rupees (4,00,000) be Issued out of the Treasury to the Secret Committee on account of the said Expedition And

That Forty thousand (40,000) Arcot Rupees be Issued from the Treasury and three thousand two hundred and fifty (3,250) Pagodas from the Cash Chest to Mr. John Walsh, Paymaster to the Bengal Expedition, for the Charges thereof.

Adml. Watson's Table Money to Ultimo Septr. to be paid.

Order'd that the Allowance for Admiral Watson's Table from the 1st May to the 30th Ultimo be paid, amounting to seven hundred and sixty five (765) Pagodas.

8,000 Rupees sold Mr. Orme at 367.

Agreed that Eight thousand Rupees be sold Mr. Orme at the rate of Three hundred and sixty seven Rupees (367) for One hundred (100) Pagodas amounting to Two thousand One hundred and seventy nine Pagodas, thirty fanams, and four cash (2,179-30-4).

Draft from the Accountant General.

A Draft is now laid before the Board from the Accountant General of the Mayors Court for two hundred and forty eight Pagodas, thirty three fanams, and ten cash (248-33-10), And Three hundred Arcot Rupees (A Rs 300) payable to John Palmer Account the Estate of Captain Thomas White Deceased. Order'd that the said sums be paid out of the Treasury.

The President reads the Cash Account for last month, as entered hereafter.

Cash Account for Septr. read.

Ballance then remaining compared with the Chest fourteen thousand seven hundred and one Pagodas, twenty-four fanams, and fifty-nine Cash (14,701-24-59) which is carried forward.

GEORGE PIGOT.

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

HENRY POWNEY.

ROBERT ORME.

WILLM PERCEVAL.

JOHN SMITH.

CHAS BOURCHIER.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 955 F. D.—21-2-93.—500.

No 112.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT Esqr
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR OF FORT St GEORGE &c COUNCILr

HoÑBLE SIR & SIRS

It is with the Utmost Concern Wee now inform you that Fort William was taken by the Moors the 20th ult°, the rise of these Troubles are as follows:

The Nabob under various pretences Sent a Guard upon our Factory at Cossimbuzar to stop our Business, as is customary in this Country, when they have any demand on the Europeans, and dayly increased the force till the Factory was surrounded by his whole Army which, by the most moderate computation, consisted of 10,000 Horse, 20,000 Ragepout Gun Men and a large Train of Artillery, and then demanded Mr. Watts to go out and see him; the Nabob's Duan who commanded the Van of the Army Writing Mr. Watts a Letter that He might go out with great safety, that no Harm shou'd happen, and that He wou'd introduce him to the Nabob, upon this We thought proper to send the Surgeon of the Factory to the Duan and he gave him the same assurances and sent him back with a considerable Person & a present of Beetle (wch is esteemed a pledge of Faith) to accompany the Chief to the Nabob. Accordingly, Agreeable to the Unanimous Opinion of the Gentlemen of the Factory and Officer of the Garrison, the Chief went and was introduced to the Nabob, who immediately Order'd him into Confinement, and insisted on his giving an obligation that in Fifteen Days Time the Gentlemen of Calcutta shou'd level what New Works they had raised, deliver up the Nabob's Tenants who had fled for protection there, and that if it cou'd be proved that we had falsified the Company's Dustuk by giveing them to those that had no right to them, We shou'd pay back what the Government had suffered by Loss of Dustuk. The Chief being in their hands was obliged to sign this. They then told Him that his signing was of no Consequence without the rest of the Council (accordingly upon the Surgeon's returning to the Factory and acquainting Messr Collet & Batson that it was necessary they shou'd go to the Chief in order to make an End of the Affair, they went and were detained Prisoners, nothing more being said about the Obligation the Chief had signed). The Chief solemnly Asserts that he told the Surgeon to let Messrs Collet & Batson know He did not think it adviseable for them to quit the Factory. The next Day Wee were order'd to deliver up Our Cannon & Ammunition wch we complied with in hopes entirely to pacify the Nabob. The Army then drew off from the Factory. Mr. Batson was sent back to the Factory & Messrs Watts & Collet kept prisoners in the Camp, wch then bent its March towards Calcutta We have since heard all the Godowns at Cossimbuzar were sealed up with the Nabob's Seal, and the Soldiers remaining in the Factory carried Prisoners to Muxadabad.

As the Chief's going out of the Factory may perhaps appear extraordinary We think it necessary to give Our Reasons for taking such a step—it has been always Customary in Bengal for the Chiefs of the Subordinates to visit the Nabobs of the Prevince, and We had great reason to believe, that on paying this visit we shou'd be able to accommodate Matters and prevent his March to Calcutta. If We had refused, our Factory must inevitably have fallen into their hands with all the Company's Effects outstanding in Bengall, Our Garrison being in no Condition to make a defence against so large a Force, Our Factory being surrounded on Three sides by Houses which Overlooked Our Bastions & some not thirty yards from the Bastion most of our Guns were Honey-Combed & Carriages rotten though we had repeatedly Indented to Calcutta for new ones. Our Garrison consisted of about 50 Soldiers most of which were Black Porteguez—We had about 80 Maunds of Powder, but few or no Shot or Granades. We might possibly with this Force have held out 3 or 4 Days which wou'd not have prevented the Consequence that have since happen'd, and We undoubtedly shou'd have been blamed for having commenced a War with the Government and We are very sensible had the Gentlemen of Calcutta thought proper to treat, Affairs might have been accommodated even when the Nabob was on his March.

We can give no certain Account how Calcutta was taken We being then Prisoners in the Camp, but we have since heard the Governor, Commandant and several other Gentlemen of the Council with part of the Garrison quitted the Fort and retired on Board their ships w^{ch} flung the rest into Panick & Confusion, w^{ch} occasion'd the Fort to be surrendered to the Moors. We hear Mr. Holwell was taken Prisoner in the Fort and is in Irons. We have no certain News of the Fate of the other subordinates, but it is reported they are Plundered. Most of the Company's Servants that remained when the Governor &^{ca} went away were either killed or have since died by ill usage.

We shall address Your Honour &^{ca} again when we can do it with more certainty.

We were released about four days ago and agreable to our desire were delivered to the Care of the French who has the Nabob's Orders to send Us safe to Madrass. Inclos'd is a Coppy of a Letter from the Nabob to the Director of Chandernagore as also one to the Governour, Fort S^{t} George. The Civilitys that we and all the English have received from this Settlement requires the greatest acknowledgments. Lest any false reports shou'd reach Your Honour &^{ca} We can assure you that to the best of our knowledge the French have given no Assistance to the Country Government but have suffer'd greatly themselves having been obliged to pay 40,000 Rupees and the Dutch as much or more.

We beg the favour of your Honour &^{ca} to represent to Our Hon'ble Masters our distres'd situation by the first Conveyance, and We hope from their Candour that the part we have acted will not be dissppprov'd of, as we are conscious to Ourselves that had the Governour & Council made any proposals to the Government, Affairs might have been accommodated, Fort William subsisted, and their Effects at the Subordinates and the Aurungs safe—but by all Accounts they were as averse to any Terms of Peace as they were incapable of War.

CHANDERNAGORE
the 2^{d} July 1756.

We are with respect
Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedient humble Servants
W^{M} WATTS
M. COLLET.

N^{o} 115.

Chandernagore 6th July 1756.

HOÑBLE SIR & SIRS,

Enclosed comes Duplicate of Our Letter of the 3rd Instant since which we are informed that the Dacca Factory was surrounded and the Gentlemen Obliged to surrender, that the French Chief has received them into their Factory till he has the Nabob's Order concerning them, that Mr. Amyatt has marde his escape from Luckipore with Effects of the Company to the amount of about 60000 Rupees, Mr. Boddam from Ballasore likewise with about 5 or 6000 Rs.

We have been obliged to borrow money of the French Company for our subsistance as We have lost every thing we had in Bengal, *Vizt.* Mr. Watts 2000 for him & his family & Mr. Collet 500 Rs. for w^{ch} We have given Receipts. As these Notes will be tendered to your Honour &^{ca} from Pondicherry for payment, We beg the favour of your Honour &^{ca} to Honour them, and in case the Company do not think proper to make Us any allowance, We shall with pleasure repay the sum advanced. Enclos'd is a List of what Gentlemen are on Board of the English Ships in the River.

We are with respect
HOÑBLE SIR & SIRS
Your most obedient humble Servants
W^{M} WATTS
M. COLLET

To the HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^{R}
&^{ca} Council of Fort S^{t} George.

Nº 116.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS

Since our last We have received a Letter from the Gentlemen on Board of the Ships at Fulta, Copy of w^{ch} We inclose, as also Copy of a Letter they desire to be translated into Persian & sent to the several great Men about the Nabob for permission to re-establish the settlement.

We must beg leave to observe to your Honour &^{ca} that We wrote to the Governour & Council of Calcutta when we were at Hughly (which was the first opportunity we had) that if they wou'd send a proper person or Empower Us We flatter'd ourselves that We shou'd be able even then to accommodate Matters for a sum of Money—We are not certain but are inform'd that That Letter was receiv'd and an Answer wrote Importing that after the Affront the Nabob had given of sealing up the Comyany's Effects and Confining their Servants at Cossimbuzar they cou'd not think of coming to any Terms of Accommodation. We are inform'd likewise by Cossenant, one of the Company's Banyans that Ommichund & some of the Principal Merchants offered to contribute considerably towards making up Affairs, Coja Wazeed the greatest Merchant in Bengal who resides at Hughley and has great influence with the Nabob, His Duan told us that He went four Times to Calcutta in order to persuade the Gentlemen to make up matters with the Nabob but was threatned to be ill used if he came again on the same Errand.

We shall do all in our Power to get Permission to re-establish the settlement but are without any hopes of obtaining during the Life of the present Nabob. We therefore know of no other method but that of a Military Force which We hope your Honour &^{ca} will be able to send sufficient to attack the Nabob even in his Metropolis as we hear a Peace is confirmed with France.

There are 79 of our Serjeants, Soldiers & Others in the Hospital here, who escaped from Calcutta and are provided with provisions & Cloaths by the French Governour & Council, who have been extreamly Humane to Us All and now maintain by Charrity near 3000 Poor Porteguese Men, Women & Children who were Inhabitants of Calcutta.

CHANDERNAGORE

The 7th July 1756

We are with respect

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS

Your most Obdt. humble Servts.

W^{M} WATTS

M. COLLET

To THE HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^{R} &^{CA} COUNCIL OF FORT S^{T} GEORGE.

To COJA WAZEED.

SIR

Relying on your favour & Friendship for the English Nation, We take the liberty of Addressing this Letter to you and intreat the Honour of your Aid and Assistance in Our present Situation, We hope by your means to be informed in what manner We may Address the Nabob for his permission to re-establish our Settlement at Calcutta.

To whom can we apply in our present Circumstance, but to those from whom We have received many Marks of Favour & Protection, & on whom we still depend.

due forms of respect. What can we say more? but that we hope much from your Aid and Favourable representation of the English to the Nabob.

We are with respect

SIR

Your most obedient h'ble Servants

ROGER DRAKF JUN^R

C. MANNINGHAM

W FRANKLAND

W MACKETT

P. AMYATT

THO^S BODDAM

To WILLIAM WATTS & MATHEW COLLET ESQ^RS.

GENTLEMEN

We congratulate your safety at Chandernagore. In our Situation We are to expect from you who have been so long in the Nabob's Camp the most Certain Account you are able to transmit us of the Nabob's Determination respecting the English Company, & what effect you imagine an application to his principal Ministers and great Men would have in our Favour, for which purpose We shou'd be glad you wou'd let us know, who wou'd be the properest Persons to Address to, We are advised that Monickchund, Roy Doolub, Golaum Hossein Cawn, & Coja Wazeed are those who have the greatest Influence & in Consequence of that Information We forward you enclose'd Letters for those Officers, & desire you will endeavour to have an exact translate of them made into the Persian Language, & get them delivered with the Original. If you think it wou'd be proper to apply to any other Durbar Officers upon this occasion, We request you will point out the Persons, or, (if you judge it will answer the End) We should be glad you wou'd Address them yourselves in behalf of our Honble Employers, to interest them in our Favours. In hopes of opening a Correspondence with the Government, We have absolutely forbid any Hostilities being committed on any Moor's Ships or Vessells which may arrive in the River, or giving any Offence to the Country People round about Us by which pacifick Measures on our side We hope for a favourable turn of affairs.

We are

GENTLEMEN

Your most obedient hble Servants

ROGER DRAKE JUN^R

C. MANNINGHAM

W^M FRANKLAND

W^M MACKETT

P. AMYATT

THO^S BODDAM

DATED ON BOARD SHIP *Daddalay*

OFF FULTA

the 6^th July 1756.

No. 120.

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT Esqr
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &ca COUNCIL OF FORT St GEORGE.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs.

We have received your favour of the 18th, and agreable to your Directions Colonel Clive has delivered over the Charge of this Settlement to Alexander Wynch Esqr and now takes his Passage for Fort St George on Board the *Bonetta Ketch.*

Enclose'd you will receive a Copy of a Letter delivered Us by Mr. Hugh Norrie Paymaster, and as We are of Opinion that his request is very reasonable, We beg leave to recommend it to the consideration of your Honour &ca, and we shall wait your answer before We take any other steps for providing Materials

Fort St. David
22d August 1756.

We are with respect.
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs.

Your most obedient hon'ble Servants
ROBERT CLIVE
A. WYNCH
HUGH NORRIS
RICHd FAIRFIELD
ROBt SLOPER
CHARLES TURNER

No 122.

To the HON'BLE GEORRGE PIGOT Esqr
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &c COUNCIL OF FORT St GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Our utmost Efforts have been employed to dispatch to you sooner the Intelligence of the Capture of Calcutta by the Moors acting under Orders of Souragge Dowla, the New Nabob, which Account we doubt not will have reached you before this can possibly arrive by means of Pattamars from the Shrooffs or Foreign Nations. A Narrative of this unhappy event will be in our opinion faithfully related to you by Mr Charles Manningham which we have not time to commit at present to writing. The above Gentleman We depute to your Honour &ca on the United East India Company's behalf & require from his representation that you will support us with the whole force you can obtain on your Coast, Military and Marine, together with a sufficient quantity of Ammunition, Cannon and all other Warlike Stores, Military and Marine, which may enable us to reestablish Ourselves in these Provinces, which we esteem of the most Essential Consequence to the East India Company and Trade of India in general. It is highly proper to represent to your Honour &ca that the English here were establish'd by Patent from the Grand Mogull under whose Orders all Subahs shou'd be dependant, But as your Honour &ca are well acquainted that this province was overcome by Ally verde Cawn, who mantained his Conquest by force of Arms so was it possessed by his Grandson, who assumed the Title of Sourage Doula. Wherefore further to favour our Cause and just Complaints for Restitution & Right to the Priviledges granted Us by the Royal Phirmaund, We are to request you will without delay set forth to the Grand Mogull the Enormities committed by the present Nabob on a Nation that has always paid due Obedience to the Tenor of his Phirmaund, nor infringed on its priviledges, requiring and entreating by his authority to Re-establish Us in all our Rights, and that the loss sustain'd by the Company & Inhabitants of the Settlem^{t} may be made good. We are at present endeavouring to open a Correspondence with the Principal Men, whom we are inform'd the Nabob attends to, in hopes to bring on a Treaty untill we can obtain succour, and that we may in some measure be relieved from our present Distress, being in the utmost want of all necessarys of Life, and strict orders issued by the Government not to supply us with any provisions. The Dutch and French are also prohibited giving us any assistance. Their situation appears very precarious, and we are told the French have wrote for a large Reinforcement from Pondicherry. Our Determination is to keep the River untill We are informed of your Honour &^{c} Resolutions, and in case we are not able to procure any favour from the Government or shou'd be persecuted by the Enemy so as to be oblig'd to stand out to Sea we shall proceed to Vizgapatam, this we think proper to mention as it may be necessary that the Ships in their way to the Bay call there for Intelligence, which we shall lodge there if we are able to procure any Conveyances, for the Ingratitude of our immediate servants has been such, that we are drove to the necessity of doing every individual office for ourselves, nor have been able to procure a Pattamar or a Persian Writer, and it is with the utmost difficulty we have hitherto kept together a sufficient number of Lascars to work our Ships, and are dayly apprehensive they will quit us the first Occasion. We have desired the Gentlemen at Vizagapatam to provide & hold in readiness what provisions of every kind they are able to procure to be put on Board the Vessells coming down hither. We request your Honour &^{ca} to represent a full state of all the occurrences to Rear-Admiral Watson, the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Squadron, and entreat his Aid and Assistance with the Fleet which We hope may be able to proceed hither.

Monsieur LeBon (who had command of one of our advanc'd Batteries & defended the same very gallantly) accompanys Mr. Manningham, and will in Case of Accident happening to Mr. Manningham, deliver you these advices, We esteeming Mr. LeBon qualified to give you a Circumstantial detail of our Military proceedings, as also inform you of the various stores We are in want of.

As we imagine the News of this Capture will produce very bad consequences in England to the Hoñble Company's Affairs if they receive it without being inform'd at the same time of there being a Prospect of our resetling in Bengal, We are to request your Honour &^{ca} will alter your resolution for sending the *Delawar* to Europe till you know the Success of the forces you may be able to assist us with.

We are

HOÑBLE SIR & SIRS

Your most obedient Servants

OFF FULTA

the 13th July 1756.

ROGER DRAKE JUN^{R}

C. MANNINGHAM

W^{M} FRANKLAND

W^{M} MACKETT

P. AMYATT

THO^{S} BODDAM

N° 123.

TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT E^{SQR}

PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &^{CA} COUNCIL OF FORT S^{T} GEORGE.

HOÑBLE SIR & SIRS

You must naturally conclude the mind cannot recover it self in our present Situation to transmit you such a narration of the Event passed by the

Capture of Calcutta by the Moors, as the Circumstances thereof require to be penned with impartiality, which it shall be my strictest endeavours to set forth when I am eased of the Anxiety my Station has drawn on me. I am therefore now to entreat your Conclusions on any conduct may be suspended untill the Motives, Actions and Reasons for such Our Conduct are impartially set forth.

SLOOP *Syren* OFF FULTA

the 14th July 1756.

I am with great respect

HON̄BLE SIR & SIRS

Your most obedient Servant

ROGER DRAKE JUNR

TO THE HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE ESQR

CHARLES MANNINGHAM

WILLIAM FRANKLAND

WILLIAM MACKETT

PETER AMYATT

THOMAS BODDAM

HON̄BLE SIR & SIRS

We have receiv'd your Favour of the 6th Instant from on Board the *Daddalay* off Fultah, and are obliged to you for your Congratulations for our safety. As we were Prisoners all the time of our stay in the Camp it was little we cou'd learn of the Nabob's intentions concerning the English, Only we heard from all Quarters that he was greatly irritated against your Honour &ca particularly the Governour, against whom since the taking of the Place his Expressions have been very harsh, and he has threatned both French & Dutch with Extirpation if they assist you with any Provisions. Therefore we are without any hopes that an Application to the great Men will have any Effect at present, though had your Honour &ca thought proper to treat before the Nabob reached Calcutta we are pretty certain a sum of Money wou'd have made all easy, prevented the Loss of the Settlement & the ruin of many Thousands, & we wrote to your Honour &ca to that Purpose When we were off Hughley, the only opportunity We had while in the Camp & are informed the Letter came to hand: and a Proof that the Nabob's intent was to accommodate Matters, was that he touched none of the Company's Effects at Cossimbuzar except the Warlike stores—shou'd the Nabob think fit to permit the English to return & re-settle we are affraid it wou'd be not only with the Loss of all their Priviledges but on such shamefull Terms that Englishmen we hope will never consent to. And we likewise think that after your Honour & the Majority of you had quitted Fort William which still held out, your Power as a Governour & Council from that moment ceased, and we are of Opinion that you have no Authority to indemnify Us for acting by your Orders in Case your future Measures shou'd not be approved of by Our Hon̄ble Masters. For the above reasons we have declined delivering the Letters you sent us.

We hope you will on serious Consideration excuse us for being so cautious in an Affair of such Consequence.

We are with respect

HON̄BLE SIR & SIRS,

CHANDERNAGORE

July 8th 1756.

Your most obedient h'ble Servants

MM WATTS

M. COLLECT

To William Watts & Mathew Collet Esqrs

Gentn

Your letter of the 8th Instant came to Hand this Morning, and We now protest in behalf of our Hoñble Employers against you William Watts and Mathew Collet Esqrs for declining to obtain Translation and Delivery of the Letters enclosed under your Cover to Monick Chund, Roy Doolob, Golam Hossein Cawn & Coja Wazeed, for all Damages and Wrongs which may ensue by the Deprivation of our Priviledges as contained in the Royal Phirmaund, and do now possitively direct you to follow the Instructions We gave you in our Letter of the 6th Instant having been advised to take that step, & esteeming it ourselves as advantagious and for the Interest of the Hoñble Company.

We are

Gentn

Off Fulta
the 13th July 1756

Your most obedient hble Servants
ROGER DRAKE JUNR
C. MANNINGHAM
WM FRANKLAND
WM MACKETT
P. AMYATT
THOS BODDAM.

To the HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE Esqr
Charles Manningham
William Frankland
William Mackett
Peter Amyatt
Thomas Boddam
Esqrs.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

We have receiv'd your Letter or Protest dated the 13th of July 1756 and are surprised you should Protest against Us for all the Damages & Wrongs which may ensue by the Deprivation of our Priviledges contain'd in the Royal Phirmaund when we think We can with more propriety say that the Majority of you Gentlemen deprived our Hoñble Masters of their Priviledges as contained in the Royal Phirmaund when you incensed the Nabob to come against Calcutta and then deserted the Place, & fled on Board your Ships, which in all probability & by all Accounts was the occasion of the Loss of the Place which might have been defended if you had staid, and by which step We are of opinion you abdicated your several stations and are now no longer to be deemed servants of the Company. But setting the above aside if we thought it had been for our Hoñble Masters Interest we shou'd not have hesitated a Moment getting the Letters Translated & Delivered, but if you at this time took on yourselves as a Governour & Council, you must of course allow us our Stations, in consequence of which We are persuaded We have a right to Dissent and make our representations against any of your measures which we think contrary to the Interest of our Employers, as an application at peresent We are of opinion is, and that it wou'd be more advisable to wait to see what steps the Governour & Council of Madrass may be able to take to re-establish the Company's Affairs and Credit in Bengall. We having advised them of the taking of Calcutta the 3d Instant by express Cossids therefore we think an application will be more efficacious and made with a better Grace when any Force arrives from thence than it can at present. Whereas shou'd the Nabob now permit you to return into a ruined and Defenceless Town it may be with an intent to re-plunder the Place and secure your Persons, for we are of opinion the Nabob is not to be trusted, after Things have gone the length they have, and as a further reason, to imagine that your return may be attended with a risque, is, the harsh and inveterate manner in which the Nabob has express'd himself against Mr. Drake.

We are credibly informed that when you wrote us you made application to those who had more Interest & Power to give weight to your Proposals than We, who by great Intercession had but just obtained our Liberty. On our coming to the Knowledge of this, our Intermedling We thought might have been rather hurtfull than any ways of service. However if after the reasons We have given you are still of opinion that the Letters you sent us ought to be translated and delivered we shall agreable to your Desire get them done and send them to the respective Persons directed except Golam Hossein Cawn who is turned out of the Province. We have no Power or Interest of our own to make applications, if we had, we shou'd certainly have before made use of it for the service of our Hon̄ble Employers.

We are with respect
HON̄BLE SIR & SIRS.

Your most obedient hble Servants
W^M^ WATTS
M. COLLET

CHANDERNAGORE
the 14th July 1756.

Government of India Central Printing Office—No. 826 F. D.—12-11-92.—500.
Exd.—B. M.

Letter from MESS^{rs}. JOHN DAVIDSON & JOHN DOUGLAS.

To.—ROBERT CLIVE, Esq^{r}., Deputy Governour of Fort S^{t}. George.
Dated Fort S^{t}. George, 4th July 1756.

We inclose open for your Perusal a Letter to M^{r}. Watson which will make you acquainted with the advices received by the Company's Ships *Suffolk & Stormont.*

This moment we have received your Letter of the 2^{d} with the copy of M^{r}. Watson's to you and of M^{r}. DeLeyrit's to him. We inclose our Letters to M^{r}. Watson and to the Gov^{r}. & Co. of Tranquebar open for your perusal. Our Letter to the King of Tanjore we forward direct.

You will send off our Letters to M^{r}. Watson and forward that to Tranquebar as soon as you have perused them.

We are,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servants.

SIR,—The Gentlemen of the Committee thinking with me that a Balleny or two erected as near the Seaside as possible at Fort S^{t}. David, with a few large Cannon mounted thereon, would not only very effectually Secure any Trading Shipping you may have in your Road in Case of War, but even be a protection to the Ships of the Squandron should a French Fleet arrive that they judge an over Match for them. I have consulted Captain Brouheir who thinks so, and that the expence will be inconsiderable, you will please therefore to direct M^{r}. Call to sett about this work as soon as possible, and let the same be erected at such place he judges most proper.

I am

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant

(Sid.) J. PIGOT

FORT S^{t}. GEORGE,
7th July 1756.
ROBERT CLIVE, ESQ^{R}.

Journal of Military Transactions in the Expedition to Hughly.

January 4th 1757. At 8 P.M. a Detachment of 130 of the Kings Troops, the Grenad^{r} Company, and 200 Seapoys, embarked on board the *Bridgewater, King Fisher, Thunder Bom* & other small Vessels in order to proceed up to Hughly, Cap^{t}. King having a Party of 200 Seamen in the Boats of the Squadron.

The *Bridgewater* unfortunately Grounded on the Sand off Perrin's Gardens and notwithstanding her Guns & Stores were taken out the

January 5th 1757. She was not got off till the

January 6th 1757. At 4 in the Afternoon when she proceeded as far as Barnagur.

January 7th 1757. Weighed with the Morning's Flood & at 8 anchor'd abreast of the Danish Factory.

January 8th 1757. Got up as far as the French Gardens.

January 9th 1757. At noon the Ships came to an anchor off Hughly & began firing in order to dislodge the Enemy from the Banks & Houses where they might annoy us in landing. At 4 P.M. the Troops landed about 700 yards below the Fort under cover of the ships, which immediately after moved further up the River and anchor'd close to the Fort.

The Troops on landing took possession of the Houses & Avenues leading to the Fort; got their scaling Ladders ashore, burnt the Houses before them, & lay in Coja Vazeed's Gardens' till the Breach was practicable.

January 10th 1757.

About 2 o'Clock this morning the Troops marched up to the Fort, and applying their Ladders Scaled the walls; making themselves Masters of the place in less than an Hour with little or no loss, having placed sufficient Guards & posted Centrys round the walls to prevent a Surprize, they lay on their arms' till day light.

January 11th 1757.

About 8 P.M. two Detachment were sent out, each consisting of 1 Captain, 3 Subns, 50 Europeans & 70 Seapoys, to Search the Houses and secure what Effects of value might be found.

January 12th 1757.

Capt Coote was sent out with a Detachment to reconnoitre Bandel, & protect the Men of War's Boats in bringing off any of the Enemies they might find in the Creeks.

January 13th 1757.

At 6 this Evening, upon Information that several effects belonging to the Moors & Bales of English Goods had been lodged by our Enemies in some empty Store Houses at Chincera, and the Dutch Fiscal signifying his approbation to Capt Smith of our taking them by Force, an Officer was sent with 30 men to place Centrys on such Store Houses there as the Informer should point out, which was accordingly done. But the Dutch Director, to our Surprize, denied not knowing any thing of such Effects, and refused to deliver them.

January 14th 1757.

The Detachment at Chincera was ordered back this Morning on an alarm that the Enemy had surrounded Hughly Fort.

January 15th 1757.

Having disabled the Enemies Guns (Carrying abroad such as were serviceable) demolished the Walls, Bastions & Gateways and burnt all the Houses within & without the Fort, we embarked again to proceed higher up the River.

January 16th 1757.

We landed & burnt the Gunges or Grenaries above the Portugueze Church.

January 17th 1757.

Sent out parties to burn on the other side the River.

January 19th 1757.

The Kings & Companies Troops disembarked from His Majesty's Ships, & went on board the sloops in order to return to Calcutta, where they landed next day, leaving the seapoys behind with Capt Smith.

January 28th 1757.

From this day to the

February 2nd 1757.

We remained in Camp expecting the Nabob's Army when we received Intelligence that the Van was advanced within 4 miles of us to the northward, & could discover their burning & destroying the Villages as they marched along.

February 3rd 1757.

Early in the morning part of his Army appear'd on their march along the Road leading from Dum Duma House to the Bridge, at the distance of 2 miles, which they crossed, and proceeded to the Southward of our Camp, toward Calcutta, and several of their Horse came within about 400 yards of our Advanced Battery. About Noon, hearing that small parties of the Enemy were got into the skirts of the Town, Captain DeLáBeaume was detach'd with 80 Europeans, 150 Seapoys and two pieces of Cannon, to the Redoubt at Bogbezar, from thence to defend that part of the Town, & prevent the Enemies Plunderers from Annoying the Inhabitants, which he Effected, having kill'd a good number & taken between 30 & 40 Prisoners.

At 5, the Major part of the Battallion & Sepoys with 4 Field pieces advanced towards the Enemy in order to harrass them in their march, and to discover whether they were not making some Lodgment in a wood within reach of our Camp, and as soon as we were a breast of this place they began a brisk Fire upon us from Nine pieces of Cannon, some of them thirty-two Pounders, which they had placed to cover their march; on this we immediately formed & returned the Cannonadement, which continued but a short time, it being Sun set.

When we began; the Enemy we soon discovered drawing off their Cannon & proceeding on their march to their Encampment, at the same time the Forces returned to Camp; the loss was inconsiderable on both sides, one Mattross and three Sepoys kill'd, and Captains Weller & Fraseir slightly wounded, eight of the Enemy's Horse were kill'd and as many men.

February 4th 1757.

February 5th 1757.

This morning the main Body of their Army appear'd in sight in which we were informed the Nabob himself was. He having the preceding day signifyed his Inclinations to Accommodate Matters, and desired Commissarys might be sent for that purpose, Messrs Walsh & Scrafton were accordingly dispatch'd with his Messenger. They came to the place the Nabob had appointed but contrary to his promise he had proceeded on his March, and they did not get up with him till passing thro' his Army in Camp, (which extended near 5 miles, from the Lake fronting our Camp at the distance of two miles to the Rounds of Calcutta) they came to Amichund's Gardens; The Nabob & his Ministers behaviour to these Gentlemen seeming to require some decisive Blow to bring matters to a conclusion, it was determined, on their Return, to attack the Nabob's Camp, the next morning before day light, for which purpose Mr Watson's assistance was requested and he sent Captain Warwick with between 5 and 6 hundred Seamen, who joined our Troops about 3 o'Clock in the morning. Half an hour after we marched with our Battallion consisting of 500 Europeans Rank & File, 800 Seapoys, Six Field Pieces and a Howitzer with 70 of the Train, and the above mentioned Seamen, the one half of which were Employed in drawing the Guns & carrying Ammunition, and the other carried Arms. At break of day we arrived close to the Nabob's Camp, before we were Challeng'd when we received a brisk Fire from Several Quarters which was returned by our advanced Seapoys, the Enemy on this retreated, and we enter'd their Camp without further Resistance, & pursued our march for some time undisturbed, but upon our approaching nearer to the Center of the Nabob's Camp & Quarters, our Battallion was briskly charged by a Body of 300 Horse, almost within Reach of Bayonet, and they were received with so much Coolness & such a regular Fire, that few of them Escaped; after this the whole Army began to encompass us in great Bodies, so we were obliged to keep up a constant Fire of Artillery and Musquetry to keep the Enemy at a distance. We march'd thro' the whole Camp which took up full two Hours, several charges were made upon our Rear by the Horse but not with equal courage to the first, about 11 o'Clock we arrived at the Fort, and in the afternoon set out for Camp, which we reached by 7 in the Evening.

An unlucky Fogg prevented our Attack upon the Nabob's Head Quarters, which if successfull would have made the action much more decisive, however, as it was, they suffer'd very considerably, the Seamen & Seapoys in the Rear distroying every thing which the Van had passed; The Nabobs army consisted of 20,000 Horse and 30,000 foot with 25 pieces of Cannon, and by the best Account 1,300 were kill'd, & wounded 22 officers, including officers some of which are of great distinction, upwards of 500, were counted on the spot with 4 Elephants and a number of Camels, Cattle, &c.

The Loss on our Side amounted to 27 killed in the Battallion and 70 wounded, 12 Seamen killed & 55 wounded.

The apprehension of another Attack was so great that the Enemy kept up a Constant Fire of great Guns & Small Arms all night, and the next day decamped, the Nabob sending a Messenger at the same time with offers to treat.

Whilst this Treaty continued the Enemys Army was encamped on the other side Dum Duma Bridge, having a River between the two Camps.

February 8th 1757. Everything was concluded and the Nabob decamped with his whole Army and began his March to Muxadabad.

February 14th 1757. We encamped about 400 Yards nearer to the water side.

February 18th 1757. Crossed the River & Encamped opposite to Barnagul.

To—The HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esqr., &ca Members of the Select Committee of Fort St. George.

GENTLEMEN,—We have received your Several Favours of the 30th April, 27th May, 16th & 29th June, the first of which enclosed Copy of Part of a Letter from the Secret Committee in England to your President, and attested Copies of several Husbul Hookums.

We observe with concern, Gentlemen, that you think we paid no regard to the Exigencies of the Company's Affairs on your Coast by suffering three of their Ships to leave the River without returning a Single man of your Troops. We are persuaded you will alter your Sentiments when you are informed of our Motives for keeping those Troops. Our Situation at that Time (notwithstanding appearances seem'd favourable) was extremely precarious. It is true we had concluded a Treaty of Peace with the Nabob, but so far from thinking ourselves secure of his——————————————————— Tenour of his Conduct made it evident to us he never designed to abide by the Terms of that Treaty, and that he would again make an Attempt upon our Settlement, if we gave him Room to hope for Success by Sending away any part of our Force. The Capture of Chandernagore by no means secured us from all Attempts of the French, as a very considerable Body of their Europeans and Seapoys had escaped us, and were joined at Cossimbuzar under Mr. Law. These we were well informed were actually in the Nabob's Pay, who refused to deliver them up. Monsieur Bussy's march towards these provinces was likewise generally talk'd of and expected, it being past all Doubt the Nabob had wrote him very pressing Letters to come, with promises of Assistance. Thus circumstanced, you must agree with us it would have been very imprudent in us to have divided our Force, and left ourselves once more exposed to the Attempts of an implacable and revengefull Enemy. Such a proceeding would have endanger'd the Loss of all the Advantages and Priviledges acquired by the Treaty of Peace, and have rendered the Efforts you made for our Re-Establishment only an expensive Undertaking to our Employers.

We fully intended however to comply with your Instructions for returning part of your Troops as soon as we esteem'd ourselves getting on a Solid Footing, and were under no further Apprehensions from the Government, and had Hopes of sending you some of the Detachment from your presidency by the Ships bound thither in September from hence, but have been obliged entirely to lay aside all thoughts of parting with one single Man in order to support the Revolution effected in the Government of these provinces by the Assistance of our Troops, & to preserve the advantages obtained by placing the Sway in the Hands of the present Subah.

For the particulars of this Transaction we beg Leave to refer you to the enclosed Letter for the Hon'ble the Secret Committee in England which we send open for your Perusal. You will therein see the necessity we were under of breaking with Sereja Dowla and setting up another in his Room, and the Translate of the Treaty made with Jaffer Aly Khan, the present Nabob, transmitted to your Board will show you how beneficial this Measure has proved to our Employers. The Preservation of the advantages obtained by this Revolution for the Company, must be acknowledged of the utmost Importance, & such as merits the Attention of their servants in general as well as ours in particular. We are therefore persuaded you will not only think us justifiable in the Resolution we have taken to keep the Troops sent us from your Coast, but that you will further co-operate with us for the Interest of our Hon^ble. Masters by not detaining any of the Recruits or Military Stores designed for this Presidency. This we are necessitated to demand from the unsettled state of things at present in the provinces, the new Subah not being so firmly establish^d but that some Disturbance are expected as soon as the Rains are over, from the Northward. M^r. Law having got into the Territories of the Nabob of Oude, who threatens to revenge Serja Dowla's Death, and as we are bound both by Treaty and our own Interest to assist Jaffer Aly Khan to the utmost of our powers, it may be necessary to take the Field in October to oppose the threatened Invasion, which will leave us unguarded in Calcutta itself unless you, Gentlemen, acquiesce in the Request now made for detaining none of our Recruits. Add to his——————Men by Sickness and long Marches, besides what may fall (should they be obliged to engage the above mentioned Nabob assisted by M^r. Law his party) must very shortly reduce the number of our Europeans too considerably, to maintain the Respect we have acquired, if you keep our Recruits. We flatter ourselves therefore, that as we both act for the same Masters and have the same Interest at Heart, namely the Company's, which we think cannot be of so much Consequence in any other part of India as it is now of in Bengal, that you will give us all the Assistance in your power to support their Reputation in these parts and preserve the valuable acquisitions we have so happily procured for them, but which may be wrested from them unless we maintain a respectable Body of Troops, which will likewise be necessary to obtain a Confirmation from Delhi of the Grants made by Jaffer Aly Khan. You may depend upon it, Gentlemen, that the Instant we find ourselves in a State of Security and Tranquillity, we shall return you every Man we can spare in Case your Exigencies require it.

Herewith we transmit you copy of————————Articles of Capitulation at Fort D' Orleans; the officers, Civil and Military, Company's Servants and Inhabitants made Prisoners at the Capture of it will be sent to your Settlement on the *Marlbrô*, and such other Vessels We can procure for them between this and the month of January; on their Arrival we request you will find them Conveyances to Pondicherry.

The Packet for the Secret Committee in England we request you will forward to Europe by the first opportunity. We are preparing the *Deligent* Schooner to carry home one copy of these advices, and shall send another by *Marlbrô*, who will be dispatched to your place the Beginning of next month.

We are,

GENTLEMEN,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

ROGER DRAKE, *Jun^r*.

FORT WILLIAM, ROBERT CLIVE.

13^th August 1757. RICH^D BECHER.

Translation of a Letter from COLL. CLIVE to IUGGUTSEAT MAHATABRAY & MAHRAJAH SEROOPCHUND.

It is with great pleasure I find you so ready to make use of your Interest with the Nabob to come into Terms of Accomodation, & to settle the Troubles of this Country.

It would be but repeating to you what you have heard from all Mouths, the Devastation & Ruin committed by Seraja Dowlat on the English. It would be unfolding a Tale too horrible to repeat if I was to relate to you the horrid Cruelties inflicted upon an unfortunate people to whom the Nabob in a great part owes the Riches & Grandeur of his Province: no less than 120

People, the greatest part of whom were Gentlemen of Family and Distinction, being put to an ignominious Death in one Night, & in such a manner as was inconsistant with the character of a man of Courage of Humanity; such as I have always heard the Nabob represented to be, and for this Reason I believe it must have been done without his knowledge.

Under these Circumstances how can you expect We should any longer defer our Resentment, did we not send many Letters to the Nabob in Expectation that he would have sent answers thereto, and complied with our just Demands? Did we not wait many Days at Fulta without committing Hostilities? Did not the Governor of Budjee Budjee first declare War against the English by firing upon the King's Ship? What could we do but resent such Treatment.

Notwithstanding these just Reasons of Complaint you will find us ready to conclude such a Peace as I think both for the Interest of the Nabob and of the Company, to which purpose I send you enclosed the Proposals on which we are willing to treat.

As you are a man of Sense you will easily see the justice of our Demands, and use your Interest with the Nabob to induce him to comply with them. In so doing you will get the Name of a Patriot, and prevent the Country from being made a Scene of Ruin and Destruction.

You should consider that the English are a great Nation, and that a King reigns over them not inferior in Power to the Padcha himself.

What Resentment will not his Imperial Majesty express when he comes to hear of the Death of so many of his faithful subjects.

You should likewise consider that the great Commander of his Majesties Ships is sent to represent him in Person, and that I have the same power as the King of England's Officer, and have my Commission signed by his own Hand.

I hope you will not esteem me vain in telling you we have had as powerfull Enemies to deal with on the Coast of Cormandell, & been attended with success. The like may happen here, however I hope the Nabob will not reduce us to the cruel Necessity of trying our Strength, for after all success depends upon God alone, who will aid and assist the Injured.

G. C. Printing, Calcutta—No. 954—F. D.—17-2-93—500.

To the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,—

It is with the utmost Concern We now inform you that Fort William was taken the 20th of June by the Nabob of Bengal, Grandson of Alli Verdi Cawn who died last April. The first Rise of these Troubles are as follows.

Some time after his coming to the Government he sent one Narran Sing, Brother to Rogeram, who is Nabob of Cuttack and Commander of the Spys (which in this Country is a considerable post) to Calcutta where he arrived privately and in Disguise with a Letter from the Nabob to the Governor, which the Governour did not think proper to receive as it was presented in such a Way, but turned Narran Sing with Disgrace out of the place. The Chief of Cossimbuzar being apprehensive that this might occasion some Trouble wrote to the Durbar Officers to prevent any Complaint being made to the Nabob, and the Affair was seemingly hushed up, but few Days were elapsed when he sent for our Vacqueel and told him he heard they were making Fortifications and digging a Ditch round Calcutta, and insisted that we should level our New Works and fill up the Ditch. Upon the Vacqueels returning from the Durbar, and acquainting the Chief with what the Nabob said, he wrote to him that he had not heard of any New Fortifications being raised or Ditch dug, and that we were apprehensive that our Enemies for their own lucrative Advantages had raised these Reports. To this Letter he returned no Answer, but sent a Perwannah to Calcutta ordering them to desist from fortifying, and to level what new Works they had begun. He then marched to the Northward and gave out he was going to Patna. On his arrival at Rajamaul he received the Governour's Answer, at which he was greatly insenced, and immediately ordered a Party of Horse and Gun Men upon our Factory, and returned back himself with the greatest Expedition, with his whole Army, which encamped round our Factory, and according to the most moderate Computation consisted of 10,000 Horse and 20,000 Rajepouts and other Gun Men with a large Train of Artillery, and then demanded the Chief to come out and see him. The Nabob's Duan who commanded the Van of the Army writing the Chief the Letter, that he might come out with great Safety, that no harm should happen, and that he would introduce him to the Nabob. Upon this we thought proper to send the Surgeon of the Factory to the Duan, and he gave him the same Assurances, and sent him back with a considerable Person, and a present of Beetle (which is esteemed a Pledge of Faith), to accompany the Chief to the Duan who was to introduce him to the Nabob; Accordingly agreeable to the Unanimous Opinion of the Gentlemen of the Factory and Officer of the Garrison the Chief went and was presented by the Duan to the Nabob, who immediately ordered him into confinement, and insisted on his giving an Obligation that in 15 Days Time the Gentlemen of Calcutta should Level what New Works they had raised, deliver up the Nabob's Tenants who had fled for Protection there, and that if it could be proved we had falsified the Company's Dustucks by giving them to those that had no right to them, We should pay back what the Government had suffered by loss of Duties. The Chief being in their Hands was obliged to sign this. They then told him that his signing was of no Consequence without the Rest of the Council, accordingly upon the Surgeons returning to the Factory with a Eunuch of the Nabobs and two or three other, who acquainted Messrs Collet and Batson that it was necessary they should go to the Chief and make an End of the Affair, they went and were detained Prisoners, nothing more being said about the Obligation the Chief had sign'd. The next Day we were ordered to deliver up our Ammunition and Cannon, which upon Mature Deliberation we thought proper to comply with, in Hopes to entirely pacify the Nabob and prevent his March to Calcutta. The Army then drew off from the Factory. Mr Batson was sent back to the Factory, and Messrs Watts and Collet kept Prisoners in the Camp, the Nabob then bent his March towards Calcutta, having ordered all the Godowns at Cossimbuzar to be sealed with his Seal, and the Soldiers to be carried Prisoners to Muxadavad.

As the Chief, &ca. going out of the Factory, and afterwards delivering up the Cannon and Ammunition, may perhaps appear to Your Honours extraordinary. We think it necessary to give our Reasons for taking such Steps. It has been always customary in Bengal for the Chiefs of Subordinates to visit the Nabobs of the Province, and We had great Reason to believe that on paying this Visit We should be able to accommodate matters and prevent his March to Calcutta. Had We attempted to resist our Factory must inevitably have fallen into their Hands, we being in no condition to make a Defence against so large a Force: Our Factory being surrounded on three Sides by Houses which overlooked our Bastions, some not 30 Yards from our Bastions: most of our Guns were honeycombed, and Carriages rotten though we had repeatedly indented to Calcutta for new Ones. Our Garrison consisted of about 50 Soldiers, most of which were Portugeese. We had about 80 Maunds of Powder but few or no Shot or Granades. We might possibly with this Force have held out 3 or 4 days, which would not have prevented the Consequences that have since happened, but even supposing we had been able to resist the Government We are Humbly of Opinion it would have been Madness in us to have attempted it when so great a part of your Honours Estate amounting to many Lacks of Rupees was dispersed over the whole Country which would have been immediately seized and you might justly have blamed us for commencing a War with the Government and being the Occasion of so immense a Loss. The Effects in our Factory not being near so considerable as the Money Goods and Debts we had Outstanding, all which with the Money and Goods at the several Aurungs would have been saved had the Governour and Council thought proper to come to any Terms with the Nabob. We therefore hope (though unfortunate) your Honours will approve off and think the Steps we took the most prudent, tho' by unthinking men who see affairs but in one Light we may possibly be blamed.

The best Account We can get of the taking Fort William, We being then prisoners in the Camp, is that two Days before the Place was delivered up the Governour Messrs. Manningham, Frankland, and Mackett with the Commandant George Minchin, Captain Alexander Grant, and 8 or 9 of the Junior Servants with part of the Military quitted the Fort and retired on board their Ships, but with such Precipitation that we heard they have saved nothing belonging to the Company not even their Books and Papers or Moguls Phirmaund. Messrs. Pearkes, Hollwell, Eyre and Baillie with the rest of the Company's Servants and Military remained in the Fort. But when the Governour, &ca., were gone, the Soldiers got to their liquors and Wine under no Command, 56 of the Soldiers that were Dutch deserted that Night, After which all was Tumult, Disorder and Confusion which we imagine occasioned the Gentlemen to hoist a Flag of Truce in Order to capitulate. This opportunity the Moors took to rush in upon them, applied Ladders to the Walls which they scaled and were soon in possession of the Fort. Most of the Gentlemen, Officers and Soldiers were carried Prisoners to the Nabob, who ordered them into the Black Hole where out of 146, One hundred and twenty three were found dead the next Morning, supposed to be suffocated by the Closeness of the Place. Messrs. Holwell, Court, Burdett, and Walcott and Ensign were put in Irons and carried Prisoners to Muxadavad, of whom we have since heard nothing. We are persuaded this dismal Catastrophey of your Honours Estate in Bengal being plundered, your Settlements lost, your Servants destroyed and ruined with some Hundred Thousands of Calcutta Inhabitants might have been prevented had the Governour and Council thought proper to have compromised Matters for a sum of Money. And as a Proof, the Nabob touched nothing at Cossimbuzar but the warlike Stores or at any of the other Factorys or Aurungs till he had taken Calcutta. Roydulub, the Nabob's Duan and who commanded the Van of the Army likewise frequently sent for the Chief, while he was prisoner in the Camp, and told him smiling that We must pay a Crore of Rupees, and when the Chief assur'd him the Company's whole Estate did not amount to that sum he then ask'd him if they would pay 20 Lack of Rupees, to which the Chief answered again that the Company's annual Trade to Bengal was not more than the Demand he made. The Duan then desired to know what they could afford to pay, to which he reply'd he had no powers to treat, but if the Duan would permit him to write to Calcutta he should then be able to inform him, this Request the Duan absolutely refused, but told him if any proposals of Accommodation were made first from Calcutta he might then write as often as he pleased. We being surrounded & strictly watched Night and Day by the Nabob's People, we had no Opportunity of Writing to Calcutta till we were opposite to Hughley, where we got permission to write to the Dutch Directors for some Provisions, to whom we sent a Letter to be forwarded to Calcutta wherein we wrote that if the Governour and Council would send a proper Person to the Camp or empower us to act, we flattered ourselves that even then the Dispute with the Nabob might be finished for a Sum of Money. This Letter the Dutch Directors assure us was delivered to M^r^ Drake along with a Letter of his own, and we are well informed an answer was wrote, importing that after the Disgrace the Company had suffer'd at Cossimbuzar by the taking of their Factory and imprisoning their Servants, they were resolved not to come to any Agreement.

Coja Wazeed, a considerable Merchant and one who has great Influence with the Nabob, his Duan also told us that he was sent by his Master four times to Calcutta to persuade the Gentleman to pay a Sum of money and pacify the Nabob, but without Effect, and the last Time was threatened to be used ill if he came again on the same Errand; from the above Proofs there appears to us the greatest moral Certainty that the Nabob never intended to drive the English out of his Province but would have been satisfied with a sum of Money. His Treatment of the French and Dutch after the Taking of Calcutta is a corroboratory Circumstance. Of each of whom he demanded Twenty Lack of Rupees, and on their representing to him that their Trade in his province did not amount to that sum but that they were willing to make the Present which was usually given on a Subah's first coming to the Government, he appeared so incensed that he order'd ten Thousand Men into the Dutch Town with Directions to demolish and plunder the Houses and People on the first Signal. He then demanded their Guns, Ammunition and Colours but was at last pacify'd with a present of Four Hundred and Fifty Thousand Sicca Rupees. The French were threatened and treated much in the same Manner, and were obliged to pay Three Hundred Thousand Siccas; this Account we can affirm to be true as we had it from the Gentlemen themselves.

We are informed that Mr. Richard Becher, Chief, &^ca^, Council of Dacca were surounded by the Nabob's Forces and obliged to surrender themselves Prisoners and are now in the French Factory there, the French Chief having passed his Word for their Appearance. All the Company's Effects and Money being seized for the Nabob's Use.

Mr. Peter Amyatt, Chief at Luckypore, escaped on Board a Sloop and has saved about 60,000 Rupees in Money and Goods of your Honours' Estate. Mr. Thomas Boddam has likewise saved from Ballasore about 6,000 Rupees, they are now with Mr. Drake, and the rest of the Gentlemen who are on board Country Ships at Fultah.

Enclosed is a letter from Mr. Drake and the Gentlemen below with Our answer. We did not think it adviseable to act as we were of Opinion that the Gentlemen who had deserted the Fort had by that Step abdicated their Several Stations in the Company's Service and had not Power to indemnifye us if your Honours should not approve of the Measures they might direct us to take, and We are of Opinion that as they had wrote to the Governour and Council of Madrass for Assistance, and as We had since wrote an Account of the taking of Calcutta, I think it more adviseable to wait till we have Answers from Madrass, and are well informed what Measures the Governour and Council there may be able to take to re-establish the Hon'ble Company's Affairs in Bengal, then meanly to return into a ruined and open Town which the Nabob may possibly consent to in Hopes of still further Plunder on the Arrival of any of your Honour's Ships, as We think he is not to be trusted after Affairs have gone the Length they have.

Enclosed is a Translate of the Nabob's Letter to the Hon'ble George Pigot, Esq^re^, on which we must beg Leave to remark that the Chief of Cossimbuzar wrote a Letter to the Nabob that he was persuaded Mr. Drake would deliver up Rojebullub's Son and Wealth, who is the Person the Nabob means in his Letter, whenever he thought proper to demand him, at which as the Chief was assured from Coja Wazeed who delivered the Letter that the Nabob seemed then satisfied. Whether the Nabob applied afterwards to Calcutta for the Delivery of this Man we cannot say.

Since writing the above Mr. Gray Jun^{r} one of your Honour's Servants has given us an Account of the Attack and taking of Calcutta, he being present the whole Time, which we now enclose, and here we must beg Leave to inform your Honours that Mr. William Mackett's Intentions was not to leave the Fort, but his Wife having miscarried the night before, he thought it incumbent on him to see her safe on board a Ship, when he wanted to return but would get no Conveyance though We are informed he offered a Thousand Rupees for a Boat. Enclos'd is an Account of the Company's Servants and Officers on board the Ships at Fultah.

We have since the above received another letter from the Gentlemen at Fultah which we now enclose with our Answer thereto. We hope your Honours will not blame our Conduct in this Affair, as what we have done was to the best of our Judgment and we flatter ourselves their Protest will have no Weight with your Honours, as we think they may with more Propriety be charged with what Damages and Wrongs both have and may ensue by the Deprivation of the Company's Privileges as contained in the Royal Phirmaund, And We are of opinion that the immediate Possession of Calcutta in its present ruin'd Condition can be of no Service to the Company, neither do we think it adviseable or safe to trust any of the Company's Effects there till a sufficient Force arrives to defend the Place against the Nabob in Case he should think proper to attack it again. We being of Opinion as we mentioned before that no Trust or Confidence can be reposed in him.

We were released by the Nabob at Hughley on his Return from the Taking of Calcutta, and were delivered to the French Governour of Chandernagore, from whom the Nabob took a receipt for us, and ordered him to send us safe to Madrass. We have received here the most humane Treatment, and have now no Soldiers and Sailors in their Hospital who are all supplied with Diet and Cloathing.

We assure your Honours that the above Account relating to Ourselves and our Transactions is in every particular true and just, and what regards the Taking of Calcutta is from the best Information we could get, in which we have taken particular Care not to be deceived or biass'd by Favour or Prejudice. We hope from your Candour that you will make Allowances For us as Men and consequently falliable for any Errors in Judgment we may have committed. We being conscious of having acted as Faithfull Servants, what we thought most for the Interest of the Hon'ble Company therefore flatter Ourselves we shall meet with your Future Favour, We being entirely ruined having lost every Thing even to our Cloaths and Necessarys.

We are with the greatest Respect,

CHANDERNAGORE,
July the 16th 1756.

May it please Your Honours,

Your Honours

Most Obe^{t} & most Faithfull Hum^{ble} Serv^{ts},

W^{m} WATTS.

M. COLLETT.

On the 17th of June the Enemy Attack'd the Redoubt at Perrins, about Noon and at 3 O'clock in the Afternoon 40 Men with 2 Field Pieces were sent to the Assistance of that Place where, in the Engagement, the Moors from behind the Trees & Bushes killed 2 Europeans, one of whom was Ralph Thoresyy. About 8 O'clock an 18 Pounders came out to Perrins, and the 2 Field Pieces with the Reinforcement that had been sent in the Afternoon went back to their former Stations. In the Night Lieut^{t} Pacard who had the Command at

Perrins, Sallied out upon the Enemy & having drove them from their Guns, Spiked up 4 of them, and brought away some Ammunition.

On the 18th about 9 O'clock in the Morning our Outworks were attacked. Small Parties were dispatched to the Tops of some of the Highest Houses from thence to annoy the Enemy on their Approach. Amongst those Messrs Charles Smith, and Robert Wilkinson had the misfortune to be killed. Monsr La Bonne, who with a small Party was posted at the Gait bravely defended it for Six Hours, till himself and most of his Men being wounded, they were Obliged to retire within the Battery at the Court House. In the Evening, the Enemy killing & Wounding several of our Men & surrounding us on all Sides, We were Ordered to retreat from Our Outworks (after having spiked up our Guns) and take possession of the Church, Mr. Cruttenden's, Eyres and the Company's Houses, which We quietly kept all Night.

The Enemy on the Morning of the 19th advanced upon us & still surrounding us killed and wounded some of our Men. We were Order'd to retire from the Church and Houses we had taken possession of the Night before, & come within the Fort. The Ladies and Wounded Men were sent on bo'rd the Ships. The Governour Messrs Manningham, Frankland, Mackett, Commandt Minchin Capt Alexr Grant, Messrs Cruttenden, Mapletoft, Sumner, Billers, O'Hard, Rider Tooke, Senior Ellis, Vassmer, Orr, Leycester, Charlton, with several of the Military & Militia fled on Board the Ships and went down the River, which greatly dispirited our Men. Immediately upon the Governour going off, Mr. Holwell was unanimously chosen in his room (Mr. Pearkes who was his Senior in Council delivering him up the Charge of the Factory till the Troubles should cease). The new Governour made a Publick Declaration of his detesting Mr. Drake's base Flight, at the same time encouraging the Military to hold out the Siege, with a promise of 3 Chests of the Company's Treasure containing 2,400 Rups among them if they could keep the place. But upon so many of the Principal Officers leaving us, the Soldiers could not be hindered from breaking in to the Rooms of those that were gone & taking from thence what Wine or Spirits came in their Way, by which getting drunk they began to be mutinous & unruly. In the Night a Corporal and 56 Men, most of them Dutch deserted us and went over the Walls to the Enemy.

Next Morning the Enemy having got possession of the Top of the Church & Houses round the Fort, from thence gall'd Our Men with their Small Arms, killing Several of them, (among whom was Capt Smith) and wounding many of our Officers. The Church commanded our Walls in such a manner that the Men could not stand to the Guns, and the Officers were Obliged to go about and present Cock'd Pistoles at the Soldiers to make them mount the Walls which were almost deserted, but they, whenever they were out of Sight, Skulk'd & would not get up. About Noon the Governour & Council thought it proper to write to the Nabob & Duan demanding a Truce and accommodation, but had no answer returned. The Ship *Prince George* which had hitherto lay'n before Perrins (from whence our forces had been some Time withdrawn) was Order'd down abreast of the Fort, but in the Way unluckily ran ashore by the misconduct of the Pilot Francis Morris, and was taken by the Moors. About 4 O'clock in the Afternoon, the Enemy call'd out to us not to fire, in Consequence of which the Governour showed a Flag of Truce and gave Orders for us not to fire, upon which the Enemy in vast numbers came under our Walls & at once set fire to the Windows which were stopt up with Cotton Bales, began to breake open the Fort Gate & Scaled our Walls on all Sides. This put us in the utmost confusion. Some rushed out at the Gate towards the River to take possession of a Boat that lay half in and half out of the Water, and in an Instant it was so laden that it was impossible to get it off. In the mean time the Moors surrounded & showed them signs of Quarter, upon which they delivered themselves up. Some of them went to the Nabob himself, and even by him pardoned, and others, whilst the Enemy were busy about the plunder, got into a Boat & went down the River to the Ships at that Time lying of Surmon's Gardens. But most of those remained in the Fort were put into the Black Hole to the Number of 146 of whom 123 were Miserably Suffocated by the Heat, occasioned by so many being Shut up in so Small a Place. Among those that unhappily suffered were Messrs Eyre, Baillie, Coales, Dumbleton, Jenks, Riveley, Law, Jebb, Carse, Valicourt, Bellamy, Sen^r^ Drake, Byng, Dalrymple, P. Johnston, Street, Stephen, & Edward Page, Grul, Dod, Torriano, Knapton, Ballard, Cap^ts^ Clayton, Witherington, Buchanan, Linch, Hays, Simpson, Blagg, Bishop, Pacard, Bellamy, Ensg^n^ Scott & Wedderburn. Among those that had been in the Black Hole, but came out alive were Mess^rs^ Holwell, Court, Burdett and Ensign Walcot who were sent up to Muxadavad in Irons, & Mess^rs^ Cooke and Lushington who got down to the ships.

At the Time the Fort was taken there was not above the Number of 20 Men upon the Walls. The greatest part of the Soldiers were drunk, and those that were sober were quite fatigued with Continual hard Duty and want of a regular Distribution of Provisions.

The Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,—

1. Since the conclusion of our Letter We were apprehensive that We might be misinformed in regard to the Governour & Councils not making any proposals to the Nabob for an Accommodation, Mr. Watts therefore went to see Seree Babboo, Coja Wazeed's Duan at Chinchura, and enquired of him what He knew of the matter, to which he replyed that he was down several Times in Calcutta, and that the last Time He was there He told the Governour the Nabob was marching down, to which He answered that the sooner he came the better, and that he would make another Nabob, with other harsh expressions He was ashamed to mention. When the Nabob was at Rannah Ghat, which is about Two Days March from Hughley, Coja Wazeed, His master wrote him immediately to go to Calcutta, that he went as far as Bamagur, but there received a message from his Gomastah in Calcutta not by any means to proceed for Ommichund was confined, and he would be so likewise on His arrival, on which advice he returned to Hughley, that when the Nabob was at Banhabuzar, Seree Babboo was in the Camp from whence He wrote to Mr. Drake enclosing the Form of a Letter to the Nabob for the Governour to get wrote fair & sign, which the Governour accordingly did, but this Letter did not arrive till the Nabob was at Mr. Kellsall's Gardens; and Hostilities had been then commenced at Tanais Fort, &^ca^, Seree Babboo delivered the Letter but it was too late, and the Nabob then too Incensed to reply to it.

2. Seree Babboo also informed M^r^ Watts that M^r^ Drake &^ca^ at Fulta have wrote to M^r^ Bisdom, the Dutch Directore at Chinchura, and enclosed him Letters for Coja Wazeed, Monickchund, Roy dullub & Golam Hossein Cawn, desiring their Interest with the Nabob to be admitted again into Calcutta; upon M^r^ Bisdom's Receipt of these Letters He sent to Coja Wazeed to desire a Conference to which Coja Wazeed answered, that the Nabob might at this Time take umbrage at any private Meeting, therefore requested He would send some Person of Trust to him to let him know what he had to impart. Accordingly M^r^ Bisdom sent his Secretary with the Letters for the fore Mentioned Person, and who also acquainted Coja Wazeed with the desire the English had of being re-established in Calcutta, to which Coja Wazeed replyed, that as the Letters were wrote in English and only signed they would have no Force, therefore it was necessary for to have them Translated into Persians and sent down to M^r^ Drake to have his seal put to them when he would deliver them to the respective People, except Golam Hossein Cawn, who is turned out of the Province. Seree Babboo said He had Orders from his Master Coja Wazeed to tell M^r^ Watts to write to M^r^ Drake that He would deliver his Letter Agreeable to His desire, but He imagined if the Nabob did so far Comply with His request to admit the English into Calcutta, it would not be upon better terms than the Portugeese & prussions Trade on, which is to pay Duties and Hire Houses & Ware House for themselves & Goods, He likewise says that We must not Expect to be put into possession of Fort William again, and that Seree Babboo from His Master ingenuously told M^r^ Watts that the only method to re-establish Calcutta upon Creditable Terms would be to proceed to Madrass and there Concert measures with the Governour & Council, and to return with strength sufficient to enforce any Petitions We had to make.

3. We must beg leave to observe here that Coja Wazeed's Opinion entirely coincides with what We have already wrote you.

4. We must beg Leave further to remark to your Honours that in our Letter to Mr Drake &ca, Dated the 8th July, We wrote them as follows "Had your "Honours &ca, thought proper to treat before the Nabob reached Calcutta, We "are pretty certain a sum of money would have made all Easy, prevented "the Loss of the Settlement and the ruined of many Thousands, and We wrote "to your Honours &ca, to that purpose when we Were off Hughley, the only opportunity We had while in the Camp, and are informed the letter came to hand" to which in their Answer they made no reply, therefore, if they had made any application they should have acquainted us that We were wrongly informed, which as they did not, it appears to us a Tacit confession that they made none at least before it was too late.

We are with the Utmost Respect
May it please your Honours
Your Honours
Most faithful & most Obdt Humble Servants,

Wm. WATTS.
M. COLLET.

CHANDERNAGORE,
The 17th July 1756.

To the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it Please Your Honours,—

1. The present melancholly situation of your Affairs in Bengal will appear a very sufficient Apology for our not addressing you in the usual form of your Council, some are killed, some Prisoners and those who remain retired with Mr Drake; we know not well whether you have been doubtless long since Informed of Ali Verde Khan having named Seir Rajah Dowlat his Successor to this Province in prejudice of his Nephew's Newages Mahmud Khan & Sahib Ham, The former of which had his residence at Muxadavad, The Latter in Proonean Country of which he was Nabob. The Succession of Seir Dowlat notwithstanding this Preference was greatly doubted, his Creditors were Rich and powerful, both men of much more experience in Life, the one esteemed of Abilities greatly superior. Fortune however had adopted him & took Care to pave his way to that Point of Grandeur to which he is now arrived. In December last died Newages Mahmud Khan, a few months after the Nabob of Proonean, & on the 9th of April Ali Verdi Khan breathed his last. The Widow of Newages for some Time maintained a faint Shew of Opposition to the succession of Seir Raja Dowlat in favour of a Boy named Muradel Dowlat, Nephew to Seir Rajah Dowlat, & who had been adopted by her late husband. But deserted by her adherents she was necessitated to drop it & to Claim the Protection of Seir Rajah Dowlat at this Time firmly established. Kissendas, Son to Rajabullub, who had long acted as Prime Minister to Newages Mahmud Khan is said to have retired to Calcutta in March last with immense riches of his Fathers & of the Widow of his late master. The protection granted to this Man & the refusal of delivering him up when demanded is universally believed to be the Cause of all our Misfortunes. Umbrage taken at some New Works of Fortification which were carriying on at Calcutta & artful Insinuations to the Nabob that the English were putting themselves in a State to make war upon him may be the Pretences. On the 23rd of May the Factory at Cossimbuzar was Invested by a Body of about 500 men. From that Time till the 3rd of June fresh Forces were daily arriving, when the Number is said to have consisted of 50,000. That day the Nabob Seir Raja Dowlat likewise arrived with a large Body of Horse, the Rear of his Army. The day of following he is said to have dispatched a Messenger to Mr Watts to Signify his desire of a Conference with him. This was Complyed with. Mr Watts was no soonr in his Presence

than he was made Prisoner & the messenger returned to the Factory for Mess$^{rs.}$ Collet & Batson, the only two Gentlemen in Council at that time at Cossimbuzar. He told them their Presence was necessary to undersign a Paper to which M$^{r.}$ Watts had set his Name & which without theirs would not be valid. These two Gentlemen likewise waited on the Nabob. The latter was immediately made Prisoner & the former sent back to the Factory with Orders to the Officer who commanded to deliver it up to whoever the Nabob should appoint to take possession of it with Guns ammuntion &$^{c.}$. His Orders were conformed to & the Nabob took possession of it the 6th. This done Orders were issued for the March of the Army towards Calcutta. For the Particulars of the Siege of that Place & Fort William we must beg leave to refer your Honours to some of those Gentlemen who continued in the Fort till it was taken. The Accounts we have vary much and are difficult to reconcile, all agree in this that many Brave men have died miserably, whose Lives might have been saved by the smallest degree of good Conduct & Resolution in their Leaders. That M^{r} Drake refused list'ning to any Terms of Accommodation said to have been proposed by the Nabob while at Hughly to avert the Storm which threatened the Colony is what we can hardly credit. Tho' this is confidently affirmed. In a Garrison so ill provided as it appears Fort William was, it would certainly have been eligible to have submitted to any for the Present, & to have waved his Resentment till a Change of Circumstances might enable him to gratify it & to Obtain such as were more advantageous. The Nabob in his return from Calcutta after marching a number of his Men through Chandernagore & committing many Irregularities Extorted from the French the sum of 3 Lacks of Rupees, & from the Dutch 450,000, and from the Danes 50,000. The French have behaved with the greatest Humanity to such as have taken Refuge at their Factory, & the Tenour of their Conduct every where to us on the Melancholly Occasion has been such as to merit the Grateful Acknowledgement of our Nation. The Sloop, which in our Correspondence with Mons^{r} Courtin your Honours will observe we became Answerable for to prevent the ill Consequences of M$^{r.}$ Amyatts Seizing her at so Critical a Juncture, is with her Cargo we are Informed Safely arrived at Chandernagore.

2. It was on the 23rd of May as in a preceeding Paragraph we have acquainted your Honours that Cossimbuzar Factory was first Invested. It was the 9th of June before we heard any Letter from the Gentlemen in Calcutta as it was dated the 3rd & in general Terms directed us to be upon our Guard as the Nabob had taken Offence at some Works which were carrying on at Calcutta & it was uncertain to what lengths his Caprices & Passion might lead him. Our Situation & the want of Embarkation rendered a Compliance with their Orders of the 7th Received the 12th utterly impracticable. For our Reasons fully deduced, we beg leave to refer your Honours to our Consultation of the 12th. In these & our Publick Letters both which accompany this Address to your Honours (The Consultation of the 3rd and 5th excepted 2 copies of which have been sent to Calcutta, but the Originals we have not been able to get out of the Factory) we have been sufficiently explicit to enable you to Judge & determine on our Conduct & shall not enter into a further Detail.

3. As your Books & Papers are all in the Possession of the Nabob we cannot with Exactness inform you of the Loss you have Sustained at your Factory at Dacca. If they will permit us to extract a few Minites from the Books we shall shortly be able to make it up, & your Honours may depend on having it by the first Occassion.

4. As to ourselves We have lost everything. A consciousness of having to the utmost of our Abilities discharged our Duty to your Honours & the hopes of your Future favour, shou'd it appear to you we have acted in such a manner as to deserve it, must for the Present Support us. Your Honours will do us the Justice to believe that in the surrender of our Factory without Resistance we have not been Actuated by any unmanly attachment to Life. Every necessary Disposition our Situation would admit of, had been made, & while Fort William Stood, our Resolution was taken to defend ourselves to the last Extremity. That gone, & all hopes of Assistance cut off, It is certain we might have died, or by exasperating an ungenerous Enemy, exposed ourselves to Ignominy & Torment, but this would in no Shape have availed your Honours.

5. The French Gentlemen at Chandernagore & Cossimbuzar are warmly solliciting our Liberty. If we are so happy as to Obtain it, we purpose going to Madrass in the first Ship where we shall be ready to serve your Honours in any suitable Employment that your President & Council there may point out to us till your Pleasure is known.

6. Exclusive of the Gentlemen whose names Appear at the foot of this Letter there are Prisoners with us here M^r John Carlier, a factor of one year's standing, M^r John Johnstone just commencing, Assistants, Lieu^t John Cudmore & M^r Nathaniel Wilson Surgeon, M^r William Sumner the Second at this Factory, absent at Calcutta by Permission & who we hear is safe having been order'd on board Ship some days before the Place was taken. We advised the Gentlemen at Madrass of this Unhappy Event as soon as we could collect any particulars which we thought carried an Appearance of Truth.

We are with great Respect,
MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,
Your Honours faithfull humble Serv^ts,

RICH^D BECHER,
LUKE SCRAFTON,
THOM. KYNDMAN,
SAMUEL WALLER.

FROM THE FRENCH FACTORY
AT DACCA,
July 18th, 1756.

To the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,—

1. As it is probable a vessel may be dispatched for Europe by the President & Council of Fort S^t George or some other Nation settled on the Coast and a Conveyance offering from hence to Vizagapatam. We think it our Duty to give Your Honours some Account of an Event which must be of the utmost consequence to your trade. It is with the greatest concern We find ourselves under the necessity of transmitting your Honours such Disagreeable news, & shall beg leave to confine ourselves to Generals for the present referring to a future Address for the particulars of the Affair.

2. Upon the Receipt of your Packett by the *Delawar* We thought it necessary to put ourselves in the best posture of defence we could, & for that purpose gave directions to have the Line of Guns towards the River repaired & strengthened. While we were carrying on this work a Perwannah arrived from the Nabob Surajud Dowla (who had succeeded to the Government upon the Death of Aly Ver de Cawn) forbidding us to Erect any new Works, or dig a Ditch which he was informed we were doing.

3. As we esteemed this a very unreasonable prohibition, The President made the following reply by the approbation and consent of the Board. That we were not erecting any new Fortifications, but only Repairing our Wharf which had been much damaged by the Freshes, and that he had been misinformed in regard to the Ditch; having dug none since the Invasion of the Marattoes which had been executed by the requests of our Inhabitants and with the approbation of Aly Ver de Cawn himself; That we had received advice of there being a likelihood of a rupture between the French & us, & as they had disregarded the neutrality of the Moguls Dominions in the last war by attacking Madrass, We were under some apprehensions of their making some attempt upon our Settlement should there be a Declaration of war between the two Nations, for which reason we thought it necessary to be upon our Guard & make our place as defensible as we could.

4. The Nabob was at that Time encamped at Rajamaul, & the Gentlemen at Cossimbuzar a few days after informed us That he was much incensed at the foregoing reply & had ordered their Factory to be Invested with a party of Horsemen. This was confirmed in a second Letter from them with advice that a large Body of Troops were actually placed upon them, & that more were daily expected, for which Reason they desired a reinforcement of Military and a supply of stores. Another Letter from those Gentlemen advised us that Troops were daily station'd on them, That the Nabob himself was returning from Rajamaul, That a Train of Artillery was ordered to be planted against them, & that he threatened to attack their Factory as soon as he arrived. In this Letter they requested us to Complain against Hukumbeg & his Duan, for their Extortions of late years, as they look'd upon them to be the investigators of these disturbances.

5. Upon the Receipt of this Letter, We transmitted them a blank Arasdass for them to insert the Complaint against Hukumbeg & his Duan, as they who were on the Spot must be the best Judges what to write, and directed them to remonstrate in that Arasdass the injury done us in Surrounding our Factory upon so frivolous & unjust a pretence; the falsity of which he might be satisfied of by sending a person to Examine & Report the works we were Carrying on. We likewise order'd them to endeavour all in their Power to Accomodate the matter, but on no Account to mention the demolition of any works: That in the present situation of Affairs we thought it more adviseable to Sooth the Nabob than to provoke him, which sending up a reinforcement might occasion, & therefore we thought it best to defer the supply they had requested, & Directed them That in case the Nabob carried matters to extremity & attack'd their Factory to make the best defence they could till the Waters rose, and then to retreat with their Garrison to Calcutta.

6. Two other Letters arrived from Mr. Watts & his Council with intelligence of a further number of Troops having surrounded their factory, & that the Nabob was daily expected at Muxadavad, when it was imagined they would actually be attack'd. In the former of these Letters they informed us that one of the principal Jummadars placed upon them, told their Doctor, the Nabob was angry with the English on no other Account than a Draw Bridge we had built at Perrins & an Octagon at Mr. Kelsall's Garden, & that if we would destroy those works the Forces would be immediately taken off their Factory. In consequence of which information They gave it as their opinion, If the President would address the Nabob & promise to Demolish the Draw Bridge & Octagon the affair would be accomodated.

7. This Letter was taken into consideration by the Board & for many strong reasons it was judged more adviseable to promise the Demolition of those works than hazard a rupture with the Nabob at a Juncture that we were so little prepared for it. Accordingly an Arassdass was wrote to that Effect & Triplicate of it forwarded to the Chief & Council at Cossimbuzar for them to get delivered. These Letters Messrs. Watts & Collet acquaint us were not received while the Factory remained in our Hands.

8. On the 7th June we received the disagreeable News of Cossimbuzar Factory being Delivered up to the Nabob, who had made Mr. Watts a Prisoner upon his going to Visit them, that the Nabob on his arrival before Cossimbuzar demanded the Chief to come out & see him, the Nabob's Duan, who Commanded the Van of the Army, writing the Chief a Letter that he Might come out with great safety, that he would introduce him to the Nabob. Upon this it was thought proper to send the Surgeon of the Factory to the Duan, who returned & assured the Chief he might go out with great Security; from these assurances & the Pachowterah Droogah for Collector of the Customs being sent by the Duan to the Chief with a present of Beetle & to conduct him to the Duan who was to introduce him to the Nabob, he by the advice & opinion of all the Gentlemen of the Factory and Officer of the Garrison went & was by the Duan presented to the Nabob, who ordered him into confinement, & forced him to sign a Muchulka to the following purport; That we should give no protection to the King's subjects; That We should destroy any new Fortifications we had raised & fill up the new Ditch, and that if it could be proved, We

had granted Dustacks to any Persons that were not Entitled to them, the Loss sustained by the Government in the Custom should be made good by the Company. These Letters likewise informed us the Nabob intended to march to Calcutta with his whole Army which now amounted to 50,000 Men, besides a very large Train of Artillery.

9. Upon the Receipt of this Intelligence, We thought it expedient to put our Town (which was extremely open towards the Land) in the best posture of Defence we could by throwing up such outworks as the shortness of our Time would admit of, conformable to Plans laid before us for that purpose, which was accordingly executed. The Militia were likewise Summon'd & Train'd, and everything in our power prepared to sustain our attack in case the Nabob should be rash enough to carry matters to that extremity.

10. The 16th of June the Van of his Army appear'd before the Redoubt at Perrins, and about one in the afternoon attempted to force a passage that way in the Town, but were bravely Repulsed by the Party stationed there, numbers of them being killed, Which made them decamp in the Night from thence, and Enter the Town from the eastward, at which quarter it was not in our power to prevent their getting in. On the morning of the 18th They begun the attack of our Lines, and after a very warm fire the whole Day, One of our Batteries were obliged to Retreat; which made it necessary to recall the rest that They might not be cut off by the Enemy in the Rear.

11. The next morning they commenced a brisk fire upon the Fort which they continued the whole Day and great part of Sunday the 20th; And having gained possession of the several Houses near the Factory and the Church, They destroyed a great many of our Officers & private Men, who being harass'd out with continual Duty & the Enemy overpowering us with their numbers, the Walls were scaled on the Evening of the 20th, and the Fort surrender'd upon promise of their civil Treatment of the Prisoners.

12. We have now given your Honours a summary relation of the Nabob's proceedings at Cossimbuzar, his March against Calcutta, the attack and capture of that Place.

13. There being some Country Vessels in the River, such of the Inhabitants as could escape have been confined in them & suffered the greatest destress, most of them having lost every thing they had & scarce sav'd the Cloaths on their backs, which has induced us to take the liberty of maintaining them at Your Honour's expence, which we flatter ourselves will not be disapproved of, When it is considered how general the Calamity has been, & what numbers had it not in their power to subsist themselves by any means whatever.

14. Our remaining here so long has been owing to our Judging it absolutely necessary to keep the River in order to re-establish ourselves in these Provinces, for which purpose we have applied to the President & Council of Fort S^{t} George to assist us with all the Force they can possibly spare from the Calls of their own Coasts, & have deputed Charles Manningham Esq^{re} to satisfye them of the necessity of exerting themselves on this occasion for recovering your Honours Settlements, Rights & Priviledges in these Provinces. As yet we have received no Answer from those Gentlemen tho' we daily expect one, and We hope they will not refuse or delay sending us down a considerable Body of Troops as soon as they received our Letter upon that head, as their arrival at this Juncture would Enable us to Re-Establish your Honours in all the Priviledges & Immunities of the Royal Phermaund, the Country being involved in troubles by the appointment of another Subah from Dilly who is Joined by some Royal Troops & several considerable Jummadars that have deserted Surajud Dowla. There is likewise an Invasion expected from the Marrattoes as soon as the Rains take off, & by the intelligence we have received from Cossimbuzar the Nabob is greatly embarassed.

15. We have likewise applied to the President and Council of Bombay for a supply of Troops, and in case Those two Presidencys give us the necessary assistance, We may hope in a short time to acquaint your Honours of our being Re-settled upon a secure and respectable footing.

16. The Gentlemen at Luckipore and Bulramgurry have safely withdrawn their Factories pursuant to our Orders & brought away all their Military

Stores with what Cash and Effects were laying in their respective Factories. Those at Dacca could not do the same for want of conveyances, all their Boats being seized by the Nabob of that Place, but were obliged to surrender after they heard of the Loss of Fort William.

17. By the next conveyances We shall transmit your Honours Copys of our Proceedings since the Loss of Calcutta, with the Cash Account & what other Papers are material; and are with the greatest Respect.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

Your Faithful & most Obdt humble Servants.

FULTA,

The 17th September 1756.

ROGER DRAKE, JUNR

WM WATTS.

JAMES KILLPATRICK.

RICHD BECHER.

PAUL RICHARD PEARKES.

W. FRANKLAND.

M. COLLET.

T. Z. HOLWELL.

W. MACKETT.

P. AMYATT.

THOS BODDAM.

FULTA, *the 25th October 1756.*

To—The HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, Esqre, &ca, Council at Fulta.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,—

On a late perusal of your Fulta Consultation on the 14th July I find myself called upon (amongst others of the surviving Members of the Council of War held in Calcutta the 18th of June last) to attest the assertion of Messrs Manningham & Frankland touching their being ordered by that Council of War "To Embark the European Women On Board the *Dodaly* and *Diligence* with a Detachment of 30 Men to Guard the said Ships, with directions to move the *Dodaly* clear of the small Craft with which she was encumbered and of the Enemy's Fire." Most sorry I am Gentlemen to find myself obliged to speak on a subject so very disagreeable to my Memory, but the whole proceedings of that Council appearing to my conception of so extraordinary a nature joined to the consideration of My minute and dissent in Council the less August last (against any allowance being made the owners of the *Dodaly* for her Loss and Damages) that I cannot remain silent without incuring my Own Censure as well as the imputation from you of much injustice in my Minute above referred to. Thus far I thought it necessary to apologize for giving you trouble at this Juncture, and shall with your Leave proceed to speak with that strict regard which every Gentleman owes to truth not only to the particulars I am called on by those Gentlemen to attest but to the whole proceedings of that Council of the 14th July, and consider the defence Messrs Manningham & Frankland there make for depriving the Company's Forts, Effects & Garrison of the Succour of that Ship, and then submit the Justice of my said Minute and dissent to the determination of yourselves and my Hon'ble Employers.

2. That the European Women was Ordered to be Embarked by the Council of War of the 18th is true, but that Messrs Manningham and Frankland should embark them was no part of the Order, those Gentlemen tendered themselves for that Service to which none Objected publickly though Myself with many Others thought their Stations, both civil and Military, were of such Importance as might well have excused them from that Service.

3. That there was any particular Order relative to the *Diligence.* I do not remember and think I can truely Attest the contrary to. Mrs. Drake, Mrs. Mapletoft Mrs. Coates & Mrs. Wedderburn with their Family's being Embarked on Board that Vessel was purely the result of my own Advice to them imagining the *Dodaly* would be extreamly crowded, and they had my Order to be received on Board, the ship being under my directions.

4. That a detachment of 30 Men was Ordered for the Defence of those Ships I do not remember and should certainly have objected to any such measure had it been proposed whilst I was in the Council of War as it certainly was both imprudent & needless. Imprudent it would have been a considerable weakening a Fatigued Garrison who had barely a relief for duty, and needless whilst the Ships remained under the cover of our Fort.

5. That those Gentlemen had directions to remove the *Dodaly* clear of the small craft with which she was encumbered and of the Enemy's Fire are assertions to me totally New, and I can truely attest was no part of the Order of the Council of War, nor know I from what Quarter such directions went, but if she really was encumbered with small Craft, there would surely have been more propriety in moving them than her own on supposition that propriety was not attended to. Yet surely whatever directions those Gentlemen had, did not, nor could imply that they were to remove her low as Mr. Margass's House, a Station where she was more exposed to the Enemy's Fire had they taken the Advantage, deprived of the Benefit of our Guns and small Arms, and rendered useless as to the Defence or Succour of the Settlement, and contrary to Mr. Manningham's express Promise to me that I should not Stir from under the Cover of the Fort.

6. Touching the other part of the charge laid against those Gentlemen by the Colony as a just Objection to Mr. Manningham being sent to the Presidency of Fort St George, *vizt.*, that of their refusing joining the Councils when sent for, I can form no Judgment further than I can Collect from the defence of those Gentlemen as entered in the Consultation of the 14th July, being a stranger to the nature of the Orders the President sent by Captain Wedderburn and subsequently by Mr. Holme for their return to the Fort. I was myself but just come in from the center Battery when the Council of War in the evening of the 18th was called, and having been the preceeding Night and day exhausted with continued fatigued without rest or Food, as soon as the Council of War Broke up I retired in hopes of getting a little repose not doubting but the Resolution of it would have been strictly obey'd, which were That the European Women, The Company's Treasure, and I think their essential Books & Papers should be embarked that Night on Board the *Dodaly*, but whether this last was entered on the Minutes of that Council, I cannot be possitive, but perfectly recollect a discourse I had with Mr. Manningham on the propriety of it just as the Council Broke up, and indeed I ever thought untill I joined your Councils here, that both the Treasure and Books had been embarked, and here I cannot omit remarking that better no reason at all had been given for the neglect of a measure of such importance to the Company than That which stands on the Consultation of the August. But it is time I come to consider the Pleas made use of by Messrs Manningham & Frankland for their not returning to the Fort: Which are that "a little after One in the morning Mr. Lindsay came on Board and informed them He left a General Assembly sitting, That the Captain of the Artillery had reported there was not Two days ammunition, That many of the Military & Militia were in Liquor and Mutinous, That it was the unanimous opinion the Fort was not Tenable, That a retreat was resolved on, That Mr. Holwell was strenuous of its being made immediately and opposed by Mr. Baillie particularly, That the whole of the common People were in confusion, and that nothing was determined on." Without, Gentlemen, my Entering particularly into the Merit of these Pleas, let us consider the weight of these Gentlemen's seats in Council and their impor-

tance as bearing the Names and Authority, Field Officers and Col^{n} & Lieu$^{t.}$ Colonel of the Militia, and I think an impartial Eye will at first sight pronounce that there was not One of the Pleas Urged by them in defence of their not returning into the Fort, but should have urged Their Immediate rejoining Our Councils, though they had no Orders from the President for that Purpose. In place of waiting On Board for the detatchment and removing the *Dodaly* a second Time that Night as low as Govindpore, runing that Ship and the Ladies on Board into Ten Times the Risque from the Enemy, they ought rather to have returned with the Ship on the Flood under our Guns, to have Favoured the Embarkation of the Company's Books & Treasure, (which they knew were not on Board) and the Retreat of the Garrison. Mr. Lindsay informed them the Council was siting, That our Councils were divided, and that when He left the Fort all was in confusion, nothing determined on, which was True, the Council not breaking up untill near 4 in the morning, without any thing being resolved on, but desiring the retreat without, in my Judgment, a single reason being urged in defence of. The presence, weight and authority of those Gentlemen might have made our Councils unanimous, or have given a Happy majority for a General retreat, have prevented the Unhappy defection of the President, the Officers and part of the Garrison the next morning, and have been the cause of saving the Publick and private property lodged in the Fort as well as the Lives of many who fell a Miserable Sacrifice by our Retreat being cut off, the primary cause of which I must still attribute to the Retreat of the Ship to Mr. Margass's House and Govindpore on the Night of the 18th without order or the knowledge of any one in the Garrison. It was Urged I know & asserted by Mr. Frankland in Council the   August when I entered my Minute and dissent to the payment of the *Dodaly's* Loss & Damages, that those Gentlemen had Orders for moving the Ship down, and I beg Leave to remind you that I asked the President touching this Assertion who in your presence declared, He neither gave such Orders nor knew of any such being given—therefore on the whole I hope I stand vindicated in your Judgment for such my dissent, as it is to me not a little astonishing how the Gentlemen composing that Council of the 14th July could Unanimously on the Defence before them pronounce it as their Opinion, That those Gentlemen had cleared Themselves of the Charge laid against Them in That Letter signed as I am informed by the Greatest part of the Colony.

I am with Respect,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

Your most Obed^{t} Hum^{le} Servant,

T. Z. HOLWELL.

To—The Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England, Trading to the East Indies.

HON'BLE SIRS,—

1. Immediately on My being released from My Imprisonment and Fetters at Muxadavad, I addressed your two Presidencys of Bombay and Fort S^{t} George, on the subject of the Loss of your Possessions in these parts, under Date the 17th July last, and again on my Arrival at Hughly, under Date the 3rd August, when I duely forwarded to them, duplicates of those I dispatched from Muxadavad, and requested the advices I gave there might be transmitted to you by the most expeditious conveyance; and at the same time referred to a particular Narrative of the causes, and various accidents, which brought on the Heavy Loss you have sustained: This I promise to forward as soon as my Health would enable me. The slow recovery of my Sight, much Impaired by the Shock and Injury My Nerves suffered that Fatal Night in the Black Hole, and from being exposed to the Sun on My Passage to Muxadavad, must plead my Pardon for your not receiving the Narrative I promised, by the ship dispatched, I understand sometime this month, from your Presidency of Fort S^{t} George, and by which I am sensible you will receive many Different Narratives and

Accounts of the Causes of our Misfortunes; leaving those to Your Impartial Consideration.—I now sit down to discharge this part of my Duty, Humbly intreating you will believe me determined to pay the strictest regard to the truth, to the best of my knowledge; and that I will not, by any representation, either in reasoning or Facts, endeavour to mislead your Judgments, or influence them either in Favour of myself, or to the Disfavour of any One Else, further than justice to myself, and the State and Nature of Things, will make it unavoidable; Shunning, as much as possible, any repetition of matters already transmitted you in my Letters of the 17th July, & 3rd of August last, which I request may be kept in your View, as I do not find any Cause to retract any essential part of them.

2. Mahabut Jung (better known by the Name of Ally Verdy Cawn) Demising on the 9th of April last, was succeeded in the Government of the Suba Ship by his Grand Son Surajud Dowla, without opposition, excepting from the young Begum, Relect of Shaw Amet Jung, Uncle of Surajud Dowla. This Princess, foreseeing Her Liberty and the Immense Wealth of her lately deceased Husband, would Fall a Sacrifice to the New Suba, had meditated for some time the raising another to the Suba Ship, and with this View retired, before the Death of the Old Suba, to Her Palace, (some distance from the City) named Mootee Geel, with Rajbullob, the Dewan of the late Husband, Nazzur Aly Cawn, and Others the Most Faithfull of Her Officers and Domesticks; where She Fortifyed herself, and raised some Troops to oppose the Succession of Her Nephew. When the dispute was near coming to extremity, the old Begum, Relect of Ally Verdy Cawn, interposed with Her mediation, by which, and the promises of Surajud Dowla, that the Princess should remain in full possession and Security of Life, Liberty, and Property, She was prevailed on to disband Her Troops, Submitted to the Banishment from the Provinces, of Nazzur-Aly Cawn, and Two other Officers, and returned to the City; where She was no sooner arrived than She was made a prisoner, and her Pallace and Possessions seized and confiscated to the Suba's Use.

3. The New Suba having, on his Succession to the Government, sent a Seerpaw and Advice thereof, to Shocut Jung, His Cousin, the Nabob of Purranea: this Latter returned the Seerpaw, and disavowed Submission to Him as Suba of the Provinces; asserting His Government to be left by Ally Verdy Cawn independant of Him. This occasioned the resentment of Surajud Dowla, who resolved to reduce Him by Force; and after he had laid the storm the young Begum had attempted to raise against Him, He immediately marched against Shocut Jung with a Strong Army, which had been raised by the old Suba, as foreseeing the difficulties His Grandson would have to encounder after His Death. Here I must leave the Suba on His March, and Go Back in point of Time to matters no less necessary to Investigate the real Causes of His subsequent March to Calcutta; which is so blended with some incidents attending the late Change of Government at Muxadavad, that it is impossible to give a distinct view of the One, without a short recital of the other.

4. On the death of Shaw Omet Jung, (more generally known by the name of Newat Mahomet Cawn) and during the Life of the Old Suba, Surajud Dowla, Who had in Effect the reins of the Government in His hands long before the Decease of his Grand Father, seized on Rajbullob above mentioned, the Chief Minister of Shaw Omet Jung, and by imprisonment and other despotic and severe Methods, endeavoured to Force from Him a confession and discovery of Shaw Omet Jung's Riches; but the Minister, Faithfull to His deceased Master, could not be brought to any confession Injurious to the Interest of His surviving Family, and after a few Days Sufferings, obtained His Liberty by the Intercession of the young Begum, with Her Father and Mother, Ally Verdy Cawn and His Begum: but Rajbullob being sensible the resolution He had Shewn for the Interest of the Family of His deceased Master, (between whom and Surajud Dowla there had been a long Hatred and animosity) would never be forgiven by Surajud Dowla, thought it incumbent on him to provide as well as he could for the Safety of Himself. And in resentment for the Usage He had Unjustly received for His Integrity to the young Begum, readily entered into Her Councils to Oppose the Succession; and finding the Death of the old Suba was near at Hand, and recollecting His own Family and Greatest part of

his Wealth were exposed to Danger at Dacca, His first care was to draw them to a place of Security; In order to which he applyed to Mr. Watts, Your Chief at Cossimbuzar, telling Him His family were going from Dacca to Worship at Jaggernaut, and should take Calcutta in the Way; requesting at the same time, that they might there find a proper Reception. Mr. Watts accordingly wrote the President, and I think to Mr. Manningham, to much the same effect, these Letters arrived during the absence of your President at Ballasore, and much about the time that Kissendass, the Eldest Son of Rajbullob, and the Family reached Calcutta, from Dacca; at least I know no Otherwise, for on the Evening I think, of the 13th March, My people at the water side Chowkeys brought me Intelligence, that Rajbullob's Family was arrived from Dacca, and that they had received Orders from Mr. Manningham for their Admittance, who having occasion to Summon a Council the next morning, for the despatch of the Negrais supplys, showed me Mr. Watt's Letter to the President, who likewise communicated the same to me on his Return to the Settlement. This Letter, I now understand, the President has Lost amongst the rest of His Papers; though I often, since the commencement of our Troubles, as He must recollect, urged to Him the necessity of preserving it in His own and our Vindication: however, as I had twice perused it, and had since occasion enough to retain in My Memory the first impression I had received of it, I can venture to assert it was near the following purport;

> "That he, Mr. Watts, had been applyed to by Rajbullob, the Chuta "Begum's Dewan, who advised Him that His Family left Dacca "with intention to go to Worship at Jaggernaut, and should take "Calcutta on His way, and requested he would write to the Gover-"nour touching their reception there, and that they might be sup-"plyed with Boats, or aught else they might have occasion for on "their expedition; That in compliance with Rajbullob's intimation "and request, He wrote, and recommended His Family being received "with all possible respect and regard, not only on account of his "influence with the Chuta Begum, but as His power at Dacca "might be of the utmost consequence to Our Hon'ble Master's Affairs "there."

In consequence of this recommendatory Letter, and the reasons urged by Mr. Watts, they were received in the Settlement, and treated with all possible regard. whether Mr. Watts knew, or can be supposed to have judged, that Rajbullob's Family going to Jaggernaut to Worship, was a pretence only to facilitate their Obtaining a Protection in Calcutta, I cannot say; but I recollect the President's communicating to me another Letter he received from Mr. Watts, about the Time the Death of the Old Suba was deemed inevitable, wherein He advised it Expedient, "That Kissendass, and the rest of Rajbullob's Family "should have no longer Protection in Calcutta, as it was very uncertain what a "turn things would take after the demise of the Suba." The President will, I doubt not, do me the justice of acknowledging I enforced this salutary advice, and pressed more than once the dismission of this Family, foreseeing they would be demanded; and Mr. Manningham and Myself had many uneasy conferences on the protection being continued to them, fearing it might be productive of Troublesome consequences, and possibly embroil us with the New Government, should they remain in the Settlement untill the Suba's decease. Why the President delayed their dismission, I am at a Loss to account for; but certain it is, had they been obliged to Quit the Place, a Handle would have been taken away from Many, Who have been too ready to urge and maintain the protection given to this Family as the greatest, nay, the Sole cause that drew on us the Suba's resentment; which I doubt not of convincing Your Hon'ble Court is very distant from the Truth. Their dismission would however, have saved us from a most difficult situation which We presently fell into; for We no sooner received advice of the Death of Ally Verdy Cawn, than We had notice also of the stand made against Surajud Dowla's succession, by the young Begum and Her party, of which Rajbullob was the Chief Minister and Favourate of His Mistress, so that it became at that Juncture a Dangerous Step to the Company's Interest to turn His Family out of the Settlement, the more especially as for some Days advices from all Quarters were in favour of the Begum's Party. Notwithstandexpected every moment to be attacked, and that the Suba was on his Marching which, as the New Suba had been proclaimed in the City, the President wrote the usual congratulatory Letter to Him, which was favourably Received.

5. Here it became needfull to recite, that some little Time before the old Suba's Death, the President received a private Letter from Mr. Watts to the following purport: "That there was a multitude of the Government Spys at "Calcutta; that the small strength of its fortifications & Garrison, and the easy "capture of it, were the Publick Discourse of the City and Durbar; and that it "behooved Mr. Drake to be upon His Guard, and by some means prevent the Gov- "ernment Spys bringing daily intelligence to the Durbar of the weak situation of "the Place". This Letter the President communicated to me, and gave me orders, to make a Strict enquiry after such as might justly be suspected, and that had no real call of Business in the Place; and also that I would issue Orders to the several Chowkeys, to admit none to Land, or be admitted into the Town without his Orders. These Instructions I immediately obeyed, and several Suspected Persons were, in consequence of them, turned out of the Place, and none admitted without a strict examination.

6. On Rajbullob's withdrawing himself, with the young Begum, to Mootie Geel, Surajud Dowla dispatched Narran Sing, Brother to Rajaram, the Fouzdaar of Midnapore, to Calcutta, with a perwannah, the contents of which were to demand Kissendass & his Family to be delivered up between 8 & 9 on the Evening of, I think, the 14th of April. The President being at Barasut, and Mr. Manningham at his Country Residence, Omychund came and advised me that Narran Sing had got, in the disguise of a European dress, into the Settlement, and had the Suba's Perwannah to demand Rajbullob's Family, and was at his House asking, me whether I would admit his bringing him to visit me? As he had got Enterance into the Place, I thought it adviseable to see him, and Omychund brought him accordingly in about half an hour. I received him with the respect due to a brother of Rajaram, an Officer in much trust and confidence with both the late and present Suba; he tendered me his Perwannah, but I excused myself from receiving it, as it was addressed to the Governour, Who I told him would be in Town in the morning, on which he took his leave well satisfied. In the morning early I sent for the Jemmauldaar of the Chowkey where Narran Sing Landed, and was going to Punish him for admiting any one in the Settlement without Orders, when he informed me that Narran Sing came in the disguise of a common Bengall Pikar; that he opposed his Landing, but that soon after Omychund's Servants came to him with a messuage signifying that he was a relation of his house, and that he might admit him. Soon after, on Advise that the President was returned to Town, I waited on him with the report of this Transaction, and found with him Messrs Manningham & Frankland; we were all a good deal embarassed how to act on this occasion, the same reasons that before forbid the Family being turned out of the Place, after the Suba's Death, subsisted equally strong against delivering them up, as the contest was yet undecided between Surajud Dowla and the young Begum. The result at last of Our deliberations was, that as Naran Sing had Stole like a Thief and a Spy into the Settlement, (& not like one in the Publick Character he pretended, and as bearing the Suba's Orders) the President should not receive him or his Perwannah; which resolution was put in execution, and the President sent One of his Chubdaars to him, with Orders to quit the Settlement, which he did: and instantly Letters were dispatched to Mr. Watts to advise them of the Affair, with Instructions to guard against any Ill consequences which might arrise from it.

7. The foregoing is, Hon'ble Sirs, a faithfull Narative of the Protection given to Kissendass, the son and Family of Rajbullob, which has been Industrously and maliciously by some, and Erroneously by others, circulated as the Principal Cause of the Loss of Your Settlements in Bengall; an Event which I will soon demonstrate, had a much deeper and more remote Foundation: for on Your Chief at Cossimbuzar making a proper Representation of this affair at the Durbar, it hardly occasioned any Emotion or Displeasure in the Suba, nor ever had a Place in any of the subsequent Complaints forwarded to us, through the Channel of that Subordinate.

8. The Probability of a Breach with France had been the subject of Discourse for some time, before it was confirmed to us by the arrival of Your

Letter on the *Delawar;* and about the same time we Received the News of the taking Gyria* by His Majesty's Squadron, both became the subject of much speculation at the Durbar, where the Military and Naval strength of the English in India were Greatly Exaggerated, and no small pains taken to instill a dread of it into the Government; and if the Agents for the French East India Company (whose Garrison at Chandanagore did not, at this period, amount to 50 Men) were not at the Bottom of these Reports, it is at least, I hope, no Breach of Charity to conclude, they used every means in their power to confirm them; at least such was Our Information, when it was confidently asserted in the Durbar at Muxadavad, and gained belief, that the English had Sixteen Ships of War, and a Strong Land Force coming to Bengall.

9. On the Receipt of Your Letter by the *Delawar,* We began to put the Settlement into as good a posture of defence as We could; and as the Parapet and Embrazures, as well as the Gun Carriages of the Line to the Westward of the Fort, was much out of Repair, they became the first Object of Our attention; a number of Workmen were employed, and I believe the Parapet and Embrazures (the greatest part of which we were Obliged to pull down) more than half run up, when the President was surprized with a Perwannah from the Suba, to the following purport:

> "That he had been informed We were Building a Wall, and Digging a
> " Large Ditch round the Town of Calcutta: that he did not approve of our
> " carrying on these Works without his permission: and ordered Mr. Drake to
> " desist immediately, and destroy what he had already done."

10. The French having strengthened their Fort, by an Additional Bastion, which at this Time they had compleated, Received, at the same juncture we did, a Perwannah to the like effect; both of them having been dispatched by the Suba, as he was on his March against the Purranea Nabob; and the answer to them reached the Suba on the same Day at Rajmahal, a City about Three Days march from Muxadavad; and the French, by the Completion of their Bastion, being enabled to desist immediately, answered him accordingly; assuring him at the same Time, that they had Built no New Works, and had only Repaired One of their Bastions which had been Injured by Lightening: with which answer he appeared satisfyed.

11. The Reply your President returned to the Suba's Perwannah, was, to the best of my remembrance, as follows:—

> "That the Suba had been mis-informed in respect to our Rebuilding a
> " Wall round our Town, and that we had dug no Ditch since
> " the Invasion of the Marottoes, at which Time we executed such
> " a Work at the particular request of our Inhabitants, and with
> " the knowledge and approbation of Ally Verdy Cawn; that, in
> " the late War between Our Nation and the French, they had
> " attacked and taken the Town of Madrass, contrary to the
> " Neutrality We expected would have been preserved in the
> " Mogull's Dominions; and that there being at present great ap-
> " pearance of another War between the Two Crowns, We were
> " under some apprehensions they would act in the same manner
> " in Bengall; to prevent which We were only repairing our Line
> " of Guns to the Water side".

It is fruitless now to wish this answer had been debated in Council before it was sent, where I think much impropriety would have appeared in it, as the whole of it had a Tendency to confirm the Suba in a belief of those insinuations, which had been already conveyed to him, that the War between us and the French would probably be brought into Bengall, besides its carrying a tacit reflection on the Suba's Power or will to protect us. The consequence was adequate, for he was much enraged at the Receipt of it, and immediately Ordered your Factory at Cossimbuzar to be invested; which was accordingly done on the 22nd May, by Roy Dullob, of which We received Advice from the Gentlemen there, the 25th, and several other subsequent Letters, informing us of additional Forces being added on the Factory, from Time to Time, and that they to Muxadavad. The subject matter of Complaint assigned in every Letter, still regarded the New Works we were carrying on in Calcutta.

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* On the 12th of February 1756 Admiral Watson attacked the sea-face of the Fort of Gheria, 170 miles south of Bombay, while Colonel Clive landing with the troops invested the fire on the land side. The siege was pressed with vigour, and on the following evening the fort was surrendered.—History of the Mahrattas by Grant Duff: Forrest's "Selections from the Bombay State Papers", Mahratta Series.

12. On the First advice received from the Gentlemen at Cossimbuzar, We forwarded to them Copy of President's answer to the Nabob's Perwannah, and in our several Dispatches recommended them to use every Salutary means in their power to put a Stop to the Suba's Resentment, and obtain a currentcy to our Business, (which was now obstructed at every Subordinate and Aurung). We directed them to assure the Suba We were carrying on no New Works; that We had dug no Ditch that our Enemies had mis-represented us; that if he gave no Credit to our Assertions, We intreated he would send any one he could confide in to inspect them, and wrote the Suba repeated Letters to the like purpose. We also gave the Gentlemen instructions to remonstrate and expostulate Strongly against this hard Treatment, and to endeavour and trace out, if possible, whether one or other of the European Nations was not at the Bottom of it, with Intent to embroil the Company's Affairs, and benefit those of their Employers, and to use all means of knowing from his Ministers if the Suba's Intention was to extort a sum of money from us (conformable to the unjust and unusual Method of his Predecessors;) withall giving them possitive orders to make no concession, or give any promises touching the Demolition of our Fortification.

13. Thus, Hon'ble Sirs, you see us reduced to the necessity, either of resisting the Arbitrary Orders of the Suba, or of abandoning and leaving open your Presidency to the Mercy of the French contrary to your Orders, and intimation to us by the *Delawar;* for to all our remonstrances We could receive no Satisfaction from the Gentlemen at Cossimbuzar, but was still advised, the Suba insisted on our-demolishing our New Works, (when in fact We had made none) and fill up a Ditch We had never dug.

14. Under Date, I think, the 1st of June, We received a Letter from your Chief and Council at Cossimbuzar, advising, that Roy Doolob had told Doctor Forth, that the Suba's Resentment was caused only by the Draw Bridge and Works we had built at Baagbuzar, and the Octagon which Mr. Kelsall had rebuilt in His Garden: and that if we would write the Suba We would demolish those Works, the Forces would be immediately withdrawn: and the Gentlemen likewise enforcing this as a necessary & effectual expedient to put an end to the Troubles, we in full Council took it into consideration; and reflecting on the heavy Loss and disadvantage you would Sustain in your Investment, by the continuance of the stoppage by your Business, and judging those Works and Draw Bridge at Baagbuzar, so far detatched, asto be of little use in the defence of the Place against a European Enemy, We unanimously determined and agreed, to Promise the Demolition of them, and the Octogan at Mr. Kelsall's Garden; and to that purport, as soothing a Letter as could be indited was instantly drawn up, to the Suba, from the President, and enclosed to Mr. Watts and his Council, to whom We also wrote, advising them of our compliance and readyness to demolish those Works which had given him displeasure. Triplicates of this Arassdass and Letter We dispatched in four hours, to arrive in thirty six hours; and Ordered a Large Reward to the Cossids if they arrived in the Time.

15. We received another Short Letter under the same Date, *vizt* the 1st June, wherein the Gentlemen informed us, the Forces on their Factory amounted to 12,000, with a Train of Artillery, and that positive Orders were arrived to attack it, requesting they might be re-inforced with a Hundred Men, on which a Council was summoned, their request taken into consideration, and the five Captains called in, and desired to give their opinion, whether it was impossible this re-inforcement could be thrown into the Place? They withdrew, and after debating it amongst themselves, gave us their Opinion in writing, declaring the thing impracticable, and that the Force the Gentlemen had in the Fort was, in their judgments, sufficient to defend it against the Troops brought against them. This Opinion We immediately despatched to them, directing them if they were attacked, to make as good a defence as they could; and when they found they could defend the Factory no Longer, to make the best retreat in their Power: but I believe neither this Letter, nor some of our preceding ones, reached the

Gentlemen, the Suba having for some Days cut off all correspondence between us, a plain Indication that an accommodation was not the mark he aimed at.

16. On the 6th of June We had a rumour of Cossimbuzar being taken by the Nabob, which was confirmed to us the 7th by a Letter from Mr. Mathew Collet, your second at that Factory; which, according to my best recollection, expressed as follows:—

> "That upon the Nabob's repeated Orders to his Generals to attack the "Factory, unless the Chief went in Person to him, Mr. Watts, by "the advice of his Council, thought it more adviseable to go to the "Nabob, than Risque Involving the Company in a War with the "Government; that he accordingly did so on the 2nd June, and on "coming into his presence was made a Prisoner, and Orders sent "for Mr. Collet, (and I think Mr. Batson) to attend him; likewise to "sign, jointly with Mr. Watts, a Machulka, which Order they obeyed; "but in place of being set at Liberty, upon signing the Machulka "required, Mr. Collet was sent back to the Factory, with directions "to deliver it up to Roy Doolob, which he was obliged to comply "with, and was then giving up the Account of the Cannon, Ammu-"nition, and Military Stores; that the Factory was not Plundered, "and that the Nabob was determined to march to Calcutta with "his whole Army, estimated then at 50,000 Men, besides a large "Train of Artillery."

The Reasons which swayed Mr. Watts to quit his Government at such a Juncture as that, and trust himself in the hands of the Suba, (on whose Charactor or Principles no reasonable Faith could be had) without any proper Security, Hostage, or safe Guard for his person; or those which urged Mr. Collet to follow his example, when he knew his Chief was made a prisoner, and that consequently the Trust, Command, and Government of the Factory, Fort, and Garrison, devolved upon himself; or why this your Settlement was thus given up, without a Single Stroke being struck for it, I am Totally a Stranger to, and can only hope for their Sakes and the Honour of their Country, they have, or will justify the Conduct to you in those particulars. I will not subscribe to the Opinion of our Five Captains, as already recited, and say their Force was sufficient to resist and defend the Place for any long time against the Suba's Army; but had it been Defended at all, he could not have attacked and taken it, without the Loss of Time, and many of his people, and probably some of his Principal Officers. A stroke of this kind might have had Happy Consequences to Your Affairs; it might have inclined the Suba to an accommodation, by cooling still more the Zeal of his Ministers, Generals, Officers and People, who allmost to a Man were averse to this expedition, and attempt against the English, as knowing the consequence would be as fatal to his Country as to us, though he succeeded in it. A defence of only 24 hours would, in its consequences, have retarded, in all probability, his March to Calcutta for many Days, and would have been a point gained to us of the utmost importance, by having more Time for the completion of many Requisites, when for want of it we were obliged wholey to neglect, or remained unfinished at the Time we were actually Invested. A detention of his Army before Cossimbuzar for two or three days, would have brought on dirty rainy Weather in his March towards us, and Incommoded him greatly, as well in the Passage of his Troops and Cannon, as in the Attack of our Settlement; whereas, by the easy possession he acquired of Cossimbuzar, he was enabled to March against us without Loss of Time, or Obstruction from the Weather, which afforded not a drop of rain during his march and attack of Calcutta; but on the 21st, at night, whilst I was Prisoner in the Camp, it rained heavily, and dirty Weather succeeded for many Days after, during which his Musketry, being all match-locks, would have been rendered in a manner useless. We should also have had an important succour, in the arrival before the Fort, of the *Success Galley*, the *Speedwell*, and *Bombay Frigate*; these vessels having passed Tanners the 19th & 20th, and joined the *Dodaly* and the rest of our Fleet about Govindpore, after they fell down from the Fort, though before it was surrendered. Many more are the advantages I could enumerate, which would have resulted from the smallest defence and resistance made at Cossimbuzar, and can only regret now it's not having been done; repeating my hopes, the Gentlemen in trust there will give you sufficient reasons why it was not done. Their Treatment could hardly have been worse had they been obstinate in its defence; they themselves being continued Prisoners in the Suba's Camp, under many hardships, untill, I think, the latter end of June; their Effects Plundered, and the Gentlemen at the Factory, *viz.* Messrs Hugh, Watts, & Chambers, with the whole Garrison, put in irons, and sent to the common prison at Muxadavad; the Fate Messrs Batson, Sykes, Hastings, and Marriott, would have undergone, had not luckily the two former made their escape, and the two latter been at the Aurungs.

17. On Cossimbuzar being invested, We wrote to the several Subordinates, and to all our Gomastahs at the several Aurungs, advising them of the Suba's proceedings, and to be upon their Guard, and hold themselves in readyness to retreat with the Company's effects, &ca, and on intelligence of the capture of the Place, and the Suba's March to Calcutta, We sent them orders to withdraw, and join us with all expedition. But these orders were too late, excepting your Factory at Luckypore, as I have already intimated in my Letter of the 17th July. Mr. Boddom, your Chief at Ballasore, received our orders in time to withdraw himself, the few Soldiers he had there, and about 6,000 Rs. of your effects; the remainder, to the amount of about 40,000; remain yet sequestered, and Your Factory House in part only demolished at Ballasore; but Bullramgurry, by its situation, having escaped the Government's notice, and by the prudent conduct of Mr. John Bristow, (left Resident at Ballasore by Mr. Boddom) is still retained. Myself and Mr. Boddom were dispatched to take a formal possession of it the 18th September, and to negotiate other matters, which will be transmitted on the face of our Fulta consultations; and we have thought it necessary to nominate Bulramgurry your Presidency, being divested of every other possession you had in these Provinces. But to resume my Narrative: Dispatches were likewise forwarded express to Bombay, Fort St George, and Vizagapatum, the 8th of June, for a reinforcement of Troops, stores &ca and succours Demanded of the French & Dutch Settlements on this River; the success of which last Negotiation you have likewise in my said Letter of the 17th July. The militia were under Arms, for the first time the 7th June, something too late, I am afraid you will say, to be of much service, just coming to action.

18. I am now, Hon'ble Sirs, come closer to the unravelling the real causes which stimulated the Suba to the lengths he has proceeded against Us. How far my conjectures and assertions will be supported by probable system of Politicks in him, and by the tenour of his whole conduct considered together, I humbly admit to your judgments. And first, I will beg leave to remark on the Three Articles contained in the Machulka, (or obligation with a penalty annexed) which your Chief and Council were obliged to sign in the Suba's Camp, when before Cossimbuzar; The Terms of which were, *viz.*—

> "That We should not protect the King's subjects.—That we should not
> " mis-use the liberty of our Dusticks, by covering the trade of
> " the Natives Merchants.—and that We should refund and make
> " good whatever sum it should be proved the King had been
> " defrauded in the Revenues and Dutys by this practice; and that
> " we should demolish our Fortifications."

These, Hon'ble Sirs, are the purport of the three Articles of the Machulka, however they may have varyed the wording of it, by not having it before me. Had the Suba any intention of being satisfyed with our concession to these Articles, he certainly would have rested here; your Chief, Council, Fort, and Garrison of Cossimbuzar was in his possession; the Gentlemen had signed and executed the obligation demanded of them; he knew their signing it was not valid or binding without our Approval; and if he had ever inclined to an accommodation, he would have transmitted the terms they had complyed with, and at least have desisted untill our reply could have reached him, in place of cutting off, for some days, the means of all correspondence or intelligence between us and your Factory; and marching directly against us, without ever replying to, or taking notice of many Arassdasses received from us: but the truth is, his jealousy of the independent power of the Europeans in his country was at this juncture confirmed, which he was determined to reduce; and being sensible ours was the most formidable to him, we became the first objects of his ruinous Politicks. To support this my conclusion, I must here refer to three Letters which Wazeed's Gomastah in my Presence read your President, (Copys of which, I believe, is in Mr. Drake's possession) addressed to his master Wazeed, from the Suba, all three to the best of my remembrance bearing date in May last. In each of these, "He avows his intention to reduce the power of the English, forbids his interfering on their behalf, asserting his having long intended it, and swears by God and His prophets, that he will drive them out of the Country, unless they are satisfyed to trade in it on the footing they did in Jaffier Cawn's Time"; (by which he meant before the time the Hon'ble Company obtained their Phirmaund.) Your Fort at Cossimbuzar (esteemed by all Judges more regular and tenable than that of Fort William) so near his Capital, appeared too dangerous a hold, at a time he was influenced to believe our strength in India was four times more formidable than it really was; and that we were on the Eve of a French War, which would be probably brought into his Country: Consistent with this was his expression of resentment, at Rajamal, on receipt of Your President's Letter:" Who shall dare to think of commencing hostilities in my Country, or presume to imagine I have not Power to protect them?" and it was current in the mouths of all degrees, when I was at Muxadavad, that Mahabut Jung had long meditated to destroy the Forts and Garrisons of the Europeans, and to reduce their trade on the Footing of the Armenians. And here I hope it will not be deemed impertinent, if I recite, verbatim, the last discourse and Council which Mahabut Jung gave his grandson, a few days before his death; and which I had from very good authority at Muxadavad, after my releasement.

> "My Life has been a life of War and Stratagem: for what have I fought, "to what have my Councils tended, but to secure you, my son, a "quiet succession to my Subadary? My fears for you have for "many days robed me of sleep. I perceived who had power "to give you trouble after I am gone hence. Hossein Cooley "Cawn by his reputation, Wisdom, Courage and Affection to Shaw "Omel Jung, and his house I feared would obstruct your Govern"ment. His power is no more. Monickchund Dewan, whose Councils "might have been your dangerous Enemy, I have taken him to "favour. Keep in view the power the European Nations have in the "Country. This fear I would also have freed you from, if God had "lengthened my days.—The work, my son, must now be your: Their "Wars and Politicks in the Telenga Country should keep you waking: "on pretence of private contests between their Kings, they have "seized and divided the country of the King and the Goods of his "People between them: think not to weaken all Three together, the "power of the English is Great; they have lately conquered Angria, "and possessed themselves of his country; reduce them first; the "others will give you little trouble, when you have reduced them. "Suffer them not, my son, to have Fortifications or Soldiers: if you "do, the Country is not yours."

19. How consistent the Suba has been in his adherence to this last Council of his Grand-Father, We have woefully felt; but that we were not solely the objects of his resentment and designs, is evident: His Perwannah to the French was dispatched the same day with ours: when He marched against us, He sent Perwannahs to both French and Dutch, with orders to provide, and join him with Ships, Men, and Ammunition, to attack to by Water, whilst he attacked us by land: They refused; in consequence of their refusal, he invested their several Forts and Factorys, and demanded an exorbitant Sum from each. The French were glad to accommodate matters for the payment of three Lack and half of Rupees; the Dutch for Four Lacks and a Half, after having had, (these last) for a day and half, a body of the Suba's Troops in their settlement, waiting orders to attack it, and a Man stationed with an Axe in his hands to cut down their Flagg Staff & Colours. The French had not money to pay the Mulct laid on them, but gained Roy Doolob to become their Security: the Dutch were reduced to immediate payment; and both did then, and have ever since have been obliged to endure the most audacious and exasperating insults,

from the lowest peon in the service of the Government. That there was this difference in the sum exorted from them has been accounted for, (how justly I will not say,) by the supplys of Ammunition given the Suba privately by the Agents for the French at Chandernagore. The thing, however, was verifyed by two of our Spys, who brought us intelligence, that the French, by night, crossed over 200 Chests of Powder to the Suba's Army, then laying near Banka Bazar.

20. Still consistent with the last advice of Mahabut Jung, he appeared at Rajamal satisfyed with the Answer from the French Directeur; though no one can imagine his intelligence was such, that he was really imposed on as to the pretence of repairing the damage they had sustained by lightening; he manifested sufficiently his resentment & intentions against both French and Dutch; but there time was not come; it was not his business to have the three Nations to encounter at once, but to compromise, at the present, for as much as he could get from them; but that the French were, and still are, the next object of his Arms, will not admit of doubt, no more than that he would have proceeded immediately against them, had not his advices from his Court obliged him to proceed against Shocut Jung, the Purranea Nabob, as an object more important; for when I was twice conducted into his presence, after the surrender of the Fort, allmost his first question to me was, "Will ye all engage to join me against the French"? Adequate has been the conduct of the Government to another part of Mahabut Jung's advice; for though liberty of trade is granted to the Danes and Prussians, yet they are prohibited Fortifications or Garrisons. And in further proof of the resolutions of the Government to divest the Europeans of their Forts and Garrisons, and that We were the objects of his policy, and not of his resentment only (from either one particular private course or other, that may be transmitted you) I may justly add, the apprehensions of the French and Dutch themselves, who, on the first approach of our troubles, sent strenuous dispatches to their Principals at Batavia and Pondicherry, for the most expeditious supplys of Men, Ammunitions, &ca., and I doubt not but it will be soon their turn to regret the having so quietly given us up a sacrifice, unless the Suba should be vanquished in his present expedition against Shocut Jung.

21. The 3rd Instant (November) a Perwannah arrived to the Dutch from the Suba's Camp—demanding them to join him against us, with threatenings if they refused; and the same day a Perwannah reached the French Factory, purporting that he was informed they were carrying on their Fortifications, and that if they did not immediately desist, he would pass through the Dutch Factory and Settlement, and with their (the Dutch) Soldiers distroy their Fort, and drive them out of the Country, as he had done the English; and the Government have already obliged the French to take down their Colours erected on their Bounds.

22. I believe, Hon'ble Sirs, it will by this appear clearly evident to you, that the Governing principle in the Suba was Political, and the real object of his proceedings the demolition of your Forts and Garrisons, as his demands allways expressed; not that I will be hard enough to over (*sic*), he had no concurring subordinate causes, that had a special colour of resentment; and this reflection leads me to consider the other Two Articles of the Machulka, as their being inserted carry the appearance of complaint, though never before urged by him in any of his demands, as transmitted us by your Servants at Cossimbuzar.

23. That the abuse of Dusticks should be one cause of complaint, I am not surprized; at the face of your consultations, just before the dispatch of your last years Ships, will give you, Hon'ble Sirs, my Sentiments of the ill use made of this indulgence to your Servants; my Minute and Motion on this subject was, after the dispatch of your Ships, taken into consideration, and such remedys & checks resolved on, as were judged might put a stop to the abuse.

24. That we should not protect the King's subjects, is an Article will bear a much larger discussion. This prohibition, in the extent it might have been carryed by the Government, whenever they were inclined to obstruct your business or plunder your Merchants, would have rendered your trade most precarious; had the Article been explained so as to prohibit our giving protection to those who were actually Servants to the Government, or others not born in or for a term of years settled under our colours, it would, I think, have carryed nothing unjust

or unreasonable in it; but that by no means was the real intention of it. The Article had a latitude in expression, that would include your Merchants and Inhabitants whenever the Suba or his Ministers were pleased to call on them; a call they would never fail in, on some pretence or other, whenever they had got any thing worth taking; so that in truth, it would have been as impossible for us, consistent with your interests, to have subscribed to this Article, as to the other, regarding the demolition of your Fortifications; and the most favourable terms intended for us (which I could with the utmost diligence learn when at Muxadavad) were, that if he had paid an implicit obedience to the Suba's commands, by delivering our Forts, and dismission of our Garrisons, we should then have been permitted to trade, on paying Armenian Dutys; admitting Fouzdaar into your Settlement on the part of the Government, and relinquishing to them all Dutys of Consulage, Revenues, &c.,—Terms scandalous and injurious to your Honour as well as commerce; Terms which we could never have submited to, even if we had received no allarm from the side of France, without sacrifizing the rights of your Phirmaund, giving up every part of our Trust, and breaking through your repeated standing Orders for more than thirty years past.

25. Thus, Hon'ble Sirs, it will appear to you, that submission could not have been paid by us to Two Articles of the Machulka, executed by your Chief and Council of Cossimbuzar, and that we had many months before guarded against (as much as in us lay) the complaint laid in the Third; if the Honours and Consciences of Men were to be influenced by checks the most binding and solemn: but it is plain the Two Articles of Complaint were at the last inserted, to give a colouring for enforcing the Third (and only one the Suba untill then insisted on, and had really in view). I am sensible, no small pains will be taken to throw the rise of your misfortunes here, on every cause but the right.

26. From the appearance of the Suba's Letter to Governour Pigott, Your President seems to be solely culpable in drawing on his resentment, but neither justice or probability will justify the conclusion. Angry he certainly was, at the terms of his Letter; but had not his resentments been much deeper founded, the terms of this Letter, or the error of one of Your Servants, would never of itself have provoked him, or can vindicate the cruel destruction both Publick and Private, attending his proceedings which fell equally heavey, as well on the Native, Subjects of the Mogulls as on yourselves and Us; and the immense plunder of Calcutta we know, was one no small subordinate motive (instilled into him by two or three harpys in confidence about him) for his march against us, at a time when he was rapaciously plundering wherever he could; amassing Wealth to enable him either to buy at Court his confirmation in the Suba Ship, or keep such a standing Force on Foot, as would secure it to him, in spite of any opposition or orders from thence.

27. That Matters might have been accommodated with the Suba, for a Sum of Money, as was effected by the French and Dutch, I am likewise sensible will be strongly alledged against us; but by whomsoever it is, I will be bold to say, they are either ignorant of the chain of Politicks and circumstances which influenced and led him on, or never reasoned or thought upon them. The Suba's whole conduct opposes this allegation; his Ministers were by our Orders sounded on the alternative, and your Chief and Council of Cossimbuzar advised us that he had declared Money was not the thing he wanted, but that we should desist from our Fortifications, and destroy our New Works, &ca.

28. The Protection granted the Family of Rajbullob, (of which I have already given a faithful account) will, I also know, be urged with circumstances which never existed, as matter of heavy complaint against us, though the Suba never (that came to our knowledge) made complaint about it. I will not vindicate the protection being continued to them, untill the decease of the Old Suba; I have already, and I think justly condemned it; but (this excepted) I will hope, the circumstances attending and urging it, will be sufficient to extenuate that part of our conduct.

29. I am informed it has been cruelly asserted, and published by the French that the bringing down the Nabob and his Army, and the desertion of the Fort, &ca., had been long a concerted scheme, the Presidents and the rest of the Gentlemen of Council who went off in the Shipping, and mention in proof as a corroborating circumstance, myself and the other Gentlemen of Council

being left a sacrafice behind, (who they say used generally to oppose their measures) with this further addition that they had embarked and carryed off with them the greatest part of the wealth of the Settlement. However little right these Gentlemen have to expect from me a vindication of their conduct yet here common justice to mankind forbids my silence, and urges me to defend them from a charge, of which I from my heart believe to be *Infamously* false, not only as to the act, but the intention; nor would I even repeat a Libel so scandalous and untrue, had I not received information that some of Your own Servants had forwarded from Your Subordinates (for want of a better) the Publick Narrative the French in Bengall sent to their Superiors, of the Capture of Fort William; in which Narrative I hear the above cruel charge has a place in near the same terms I have recited it, with many other causes assigned for this misfortune, equally void of probability or truth.

30. It will by some, I doubt not, be represented to you, that Omychund was at the bottom of all the Suba's Councils and proceedings against us; the part he really acted under cover, in this affair is difficult to distinguish and point out; that he was much chagrined at the little influence he had in the settlement for a few years last past, is not certain; in applications to the Durbar (wherein he usually was the acting person between the Company and the Government) little use had been made of him, possibly more had been better.—Be this as it will, it is most sure, he had no general weight in the place for these Four or Five years beyond what his wealth gave him, so that his Name and Reputation became lessened in the eye of the Government, as well as in Calcutta. Piqued at this, and implacable in his resentments, it is not improbable he worked with some instruments of the Durbar, to embroil us in such manner as would make his mediation and assistance necessary, and thereby regain his credit and influence with both; little imagining things would go the length they did; in which it must have been most evident to him, His own large possessions would be equally the Suba's prey with yours: that he advised the dispatch of Narran Sing, to demand Rajbullob's Family, and introduced him into the settlement, will not I think admit of doubt, no more than that he deeply resented his being turned out of it again. His endeavours with Wazeed, to mitigate things, when he really found they were coming to extremities, was I believe sincere enough untill his imprisonment by the President, an act of his power and sole authority, for which the pretence made use of was, in my judgment, by no means sufficient; the correspondence detected between him and Rajaram Harkarah, (the Suba's Head Spy) which was read in the presence of many of us, contained in our opinions nothing to vindicate it, nor had your President even the consent or approbation of his Council for this step, or that I remember, ever required it. On his imprisonment, his Head Jemmautdaar, Jaggernaut Singh stabed himself, and set fire to his Master's house, and some of his Women either butchered themselves, or were butchered by others in the family, which became a scene of much horror and confusion. It can hardly be doubted that Omychund became desperate in his resentments, and it is probable enough he expedited the march of the Suba's Army, then advanced, I think, as far as Bankabazar; and it is likewise probable that he then sent him the real state of the Fort & Garrison, and afterwards might (as has been generally suspected) from Time to Time, have given him intelligence; but this is all conjecture; we only know, that his Jemmautdaar just now mentioned, surviving of the Wound he had given himself, was put upon his horse, and joined the Suba, whom he informed of the transactions relating to his master's imprisonment; and when the Enemy was repulsed at Baagbazar, he led the Van of the Army to the Eastward and directed them the avenues by which they entered the next day.

31. From others, I believe, you will be told, that the dismission of your Dadney Merchants was one cause of our misfortunes, arising from their endeavours at the Durbar to embroil your affairs at the Aurungs, as conducted by your own Gomastahs, hoping thereby to get the Dadney re-assumed, and themselves re-instated; nay some I have been informed have been hardy enough to urge and assert that the large increase of your Revenue Zemindary was another very principal cause, which drew the Suba's attention on the Settlement; though themselves, your President & Council, and I believe the greatest part of the Subadaary, as well as my Hon'ble Master know the credits of that

branch was only increased, without any innovations made in the branch itself; but to its loss and disadvantage. Many more causes and reasons equally substantial will, I doubt not, be assigned and transmitted to you by such busy and very short sighted Politicians as these: strangers to the real ones they think they shall not appear of any importance, unless they assign some, no matter how incongruous: but you will have now materials enough before you to form your own judgments. I think my conclusions on every cause that can be alledged for the extraordinary and unprecedented conduct of the Suba, have facts and probability to support them: to you, Hon'ble. Sirs, I humbly submit them, with this one conclusion more, that your situation in these Provinces on a re-establishment will be such as to admit of only two Alternatives; that you must in future, either keep such a Fortification and Garrison, as will at all times be sufficient to force your Trade against the opposition and extortions of the Government; or reduce your Commerce to the footing of the Prussians & Danes, &c., without Forts and Garrisons at all, and on payment of the lowest Dutys that can be stipulated.—The immunities and priviledges granted you in your Phirmaunds, you find now are of no validity without a Military expence (more, I fear, than equivalent) to put them in force; but on this subject it will be my duty, to give you my sentiments on another occasion more at large, whilst at present I resume the thread of my Narrative, broke off at the surrender of your Fort & Factory of Cossimbuzar; the easy capture of which, concurring with his intentions beyond his expectations, not only gave the finishing strokes to his resolves, but expedited and facilitated his march to Calcutta; which leads me to a consideration of the immediate causes of its sudden reduction, most needfull to be known to my Hon'ble Masters; the Rocks and Quick Sands on which we have unhappily struck and split, being fairly and candidly laid down, may prevent a second Wreck of your Estate and Trade.

32. These causes I will beg leave to investigate under Three General Heads:—The State of our Fortifications & Garrison: The State of our Ammunition, Guns, and Military Stores: and, the several errors and miscarriages arising from a deficiency (or rather a total want) of Military knowledge or Order.

33. To the First Article of my first General Head, it will not become me to add much more than I have set forth in my Letter before you of the 17th July, addressed from Muxadavad to your other two Presidencys of Bombay and Fort St George. The Nature and Extent of the Power given to the Committee of Fortifications, Messrs Drake, Watts, Scot, & Manningham, we have ever been kept strangers to; but I will venture to conclude, that had the Money which was expended on the Redoubt, Drawbridge, &ca, erected at Baagbuzar, and that which was meditated to be spent on the Circuit of Ditch beyond our Bounds, as also that which was disbursed on the Batterys, &ca, raised on the Suba's approach, been timely appropriated to the demolition of the Houses round us, to have given a proper Esplanade to the Northward, Eastward and Southward of your Fort, the sinking a Ditch round it well Palisaded, it had been employed to a more important use and purpose, and have been a sufficient discouragement to the Government to have prevented any project or hopes of attacking it, with any probability of success.—I am sensible it will be urged, the Government would have never suffered these Measures, a reasoning *ex Post Facto* will not invalidate my conclusion; for had it been thought of, or carryed into execution, at the commencement of the Old Suba's sickness, when every thing at the Durbar was in confusion, and both partys there employed on their own schemes & designs, the Work might have been effected without any let or hindrance, a Perwannah might possibly have reached us, to Prohibit our proceedings, but no Troops could have been sent against us, whilst the attentions of the clashing interests at the Suba's Court were taken up in securing each their own safety on his demise. What might have been done during that favourable interval is sufficiently evident from the allmost inconceivable useless works which we accomplished during the space of a few days only; and the same plea which your President urged in his Letter to the Suba, subsisted equally at the beginning of the Old Suba's sickness, when he had reason enough to be allarmed by the approach of a War with France. The ruinous state of the Line to the Westward of the Fort, had been a reproach

to your settlement, and to every thing bearing the name of Fortifications for more than Two years, and was in strong and just (I will not say very decent) terms represented in a Letter to the Board, by Mr. Jasper Leigh Jones, the Captain of your Train, I think in April or May 1755, but no steps taken to repair it untill we had reason hourly to expect the Enemy at our doors. The whole Easterly Curtain had been for many years in so ruinous a condition as not to bear a Gun; one we fired from it, a three or four Pounder, as I remember, which made its way through the terrace. Through this Curtain from the Principal Gate to the North East Bastion, were struck out five or six large Windows, so many breaches ready made for the Enemy, in a quarter too where we were most liable to be attacked; and sum up the whole, the New Godowns to the Southward had rendered your Two Southerly Bastion's useless to each other, and to the whole Southerly Face of the Fort, which could not be flanked by a single Gun from either Bastion:—From a consideration of these circumstances, joined to the incumbrance of the Church and Houses round us, and the other wants and disadvantages mentioned in my Letter of the 17th July, it is self evident, the place could not have held out an hour against a European Enemy.

34. The State of your Garrision comes next under view; a subject on which I could wish my duty to your Service would permit my silence, as truths disagreeable to me in the recital, and very unpleasing to you to hear, must arise from the smallest scrutiny made in it. It is most irksome to a benevolent mind; to rehearse the faults which may be justly charged even against the Living, much more so against the Dead, become so in a great measure by there own errors, and want of knowledge in the dutys of their profession; but the choice and appointment of commanding Officers in your Garrison, is now become so important a consideration to the well being of your Service, that none who would have any claim to your favour or would be deemed faithfull to the trust you have reposed in them, can be vindicated in concealing the truth from you.

35. Your Five Commanding Officers were, Commandant Menchin, Captains Clayton, Buchanan, Witherington, & Grant; each of these Gentlemen (Captain Clayton excepted) had seen service, either in Europe or on the Coromandel Coast: touching the Military capacity of our Commandant, I am a stranger. I can only say we were unhappy in his keeping it to himself, if he had any; as neither I, nor I believe any one else, was witness to any part of his conduct, that spoke or bore the appearance of his being the commanding Military Officer in the Garrison. Whether this proceeded from himself, or his not being properly supported in his rank, I cannot say; but such, I have heard, has been his allegation and plea for his supine remissness, at a juncture which required the exertion of every quality he could have been master of. Your President, I remember, spoke to me more than once with much uneasyness, at the beginning of our troubles, on the indolence of the Commandant, and seemed to think of breaking him; had this measure been carryed into execution, it had been better for the service, and, I think, for that Gentleman too; the disgrace would have been less, I believe, in the opinion of all mankind, than that which falls on him by his quiting the Fort and Garrison in the manner he did, whilst he bore the character of the Commanding Officer in it; but the mischief was, we could not have stoped here: the next Gentlemen in Command to him had never seen any Service, and I am sorry to say, demonstrated his want of the most essential requisites of a Soldier. Had both these Gentlemen been set aside, and the next in Command preferred to the Commandantship, it would have promised a happier issue for them and us; and most assuredly, this was no time to have regarded terms or ceremony. Remission or a deficiency of Military knowledge in Commanders, when coming to action, are equally fatal in their consequences, and are ever the parents of neglects, confusion and disorders; and Troops, I believe, are hardly ever known to do their duty, unless where they have an opinion of, as well as love for their Commanders. That neither was the case, with regard to the two Gentlemen above mentioned, I believe the whole settlement can witness with me; and they were in no higher degree of esteem with their Subalterns than with their Soldiers. The prefering Capt Buchanan, who was next in Command to them, would have obviated all the disadvantages we laboured under in this particular; a Gentleman whose character as a man,

and a Soldier, deserved a better fate than the unhappy one which befell him, by the errors and misconduct of others; the vacant Companys would have been filled up with those, we had good reason to think (and who indeed proved themselves) Brave Officers.—The next in Command to Cap^{t} Buchanan, in the Batallion, would then have been Captain Grant; a Gentleman who had, during his stay in the garrison, remarkably exerted himself in every duty which could have been expected from him, and demonstrated no want of either spirit or Military Skill; but much the contrary, however both may have suffered in the eye of the World by his quiting the Fort with your President and for want of an opportunity of vindicating his conduct by a proper enquiry being made into it. The Captain of your Train was a laborious, active Officer, but confused; and would, I believe, have had few objections either to his character, diligence or conduct, had we been fortunate in having any Commander-in-Chief to have had a proper eye over him, and taken care that he did his duty. Here we had a fatal instance of a remissness in Command; for that we had neither a sufficiency of Ammunition, &^{ca}, nor that good, was doubtless as much the fault of those above him, (whose duty it was to have inspected his conduct) as his; but as this poor Gentleman fell a sacrifice, as well to his own, as to the errors of others, they should be touched as lightly as possible.

36. Thus, Hon'ble Sir, I have given you as faithfull a picture of the Commanders of your Five Companys as I can draw, or as I hope can be drawn by any one else: Three of them my wretched companions in the Black Hole, perishsed there, as did also all your Brave Subalterns (Ensign Walcot and Carstairs excepted) where I will leave them, and proceeds to consider your Troops in Garrison; consisting, as already mentioned in my Letter of the 17th July, by the Muster Rolls laid before us, about the 6th or 8th of June, of 145 in the Batallion, and 45 of the Train, Officers included, and in both, only 60 European. We were taught to believe, that there were at all your Subordinates, at least 200 Men, the best of our Garrison, viz^{t}, at Cossimbuzar 100, at Dacca about 40, at Luckipore 30 and Ballasore about the same number; but it is certain the numbers there barely exceeded One hundred: Whether two hundred ought to have been there or not, I am not master enough of the subject to declare; so am obliged here to refer to your President, for your further satisfaction; who (or in his absence your second) had allways the inspection of the Rolls and mustering the people. Of these handfull of Troops in Garrison, there were not five who had ever, I believe, seen a Musket fired in anger. Had the Militia of the place been (agreeable to your Orders P^{r} *Godolphin*, Anno 1751) regularly trained to Arms, they might at this juncture have been a most seasonable supply: but this essential regulation, I am sorry to say, was totally neglected, so that when we came to action, there were hardly any amongst the Armenian and Portugueese Inhabitants, and but few amongst the European Militia, who knew the right from the wrong end of their pieces. From the Militia, about 65, chiefly Europeans, entered Volunteers in the Batallion, (most of them your own covenant Servants) in whose just praise, I can hardly say enough. They sustained every hardship of duty greatly beyond the Military themselves; their address in the use of their Arms was astonishing, the short time there was to train them considered; and though their bravery may have been equalled, I am sure it has not been exceeded, by any set of men whatever. A considerable body of these, were on the Saturday morning relieved from duty, and were gone on board the Ships to deposit their Papers, or on other occasions relative to their private affairs; as were likewise on the like call, many of the Militia, with Four of their Officers, to Wit, the Reverend Mr. Mapletoft, Captain Lieutenant Henry Wedderburn, Lieut^{t} of the First Company, and Ensigns Sumner, & Charles Douglas, all of them Gentlemen who had failed in no part of duty, either as Officers or Soldiers, in the defence of the place; so that there is no reason to doubt the veracity of their own assertion, in which they are joined by the Volunteers: "That they had no intention, but to return to the defence of the place, untill "they saw your President, Commandant Menchin, Cap^{t} Grant and Mr. Mackett, "quit it (Mess^{rs} Manningham & Frankland having quitted it before) and "a General retreat rumoured:" and indeed, immediately after, all means of returning were cut off from them, by the falling down of every Ship, Vessell, & Boat. Thus, Hon'ble Sirs, You see our Garrison, small as it was, reduced & weakened, both in it's strength, Officers and Councils, in a very important

degree, to the disheartening those who stayed, and encouragement of the Enemy; and when it is considered, those remaining, including Officers, Volunteers, Soldiers and Militia, did not exceed one hundred and seventy Men; and that of these there were 25 killed, and about 70 wounded, before Noon the 20th, and the whole exhausted of their strength, by continual duty and action, & our people of the Train reduced to 14 only; it would not, I hope, have been wondered at, had we surrendered Your Fort without parley or capitulation, though it is certain we should not have surrendered ourselves, had not our own People forced the Western Gate during the parley; for having no dependence on the clemency of the Enemy we had to deal with, we had meditated, in case the *St George* with Her Boats failed us, the forcing a Retreat that Night, through the Southerly Barrier by the River Side, and have marched untill we came under cover of the Ships, then lying below Surmans Garden; imagining the Enemy would be too much employed on the plunder of the Fort, to have molested us greatly in our retreat.

37. On my second General head I shall have little to say. That we had not powder sufficient, and that we had, not good; that we had hardly any Shells fitted, or Fuzes fitted to them; that there was hardly a carriage that would bear a gun; that the 50 fine Canon you sent out three years ago 18 & 24-lbs, lay neglected under your walls; and that we were deficient in allmost every kind of Military Stores, are all truths, will not admit of dispute; but who is properly accountable for these defects, or under whose immediate care and inspection they were, or ought to have been, must, Hon'ble Sirs, be determined by yourselves.

38. I am come now to my third and last General head, our own errors; a subject, I am sorry to declare, too fruitfull of matter, though bearing great extenuation, when it is considered, we had in truth no Military head to guide us; and that I may be as little tedious as possible, I will wave the rehearsal of our smaller errors, and keep to those most capital ones, which variously, in my judgment, contributed to the loss of your Settlement, and were the causes of embarassing and preventing our general retreat, with the publick and private effects deposited in your Fort; and shall recite these in order of time as they happened, that if due heed be paid to them, the like misfortune may be avoided in future.

39. Our first capital error was, the neglecting taking possession of Tanners Fort, on our provisions being prohibited the Settlement, and when there was no Force or Troops there to have opposed us; this measure in our first Council of Wars, I moved and urged, with every argument in my power, should be done with 25 or 30 Men, and a party of Buxirries, and that a Battery of six Guns should be immediately erected there towards the Northward or Land side. In this motion I was strongly seconded by Monsr La Beaume, and I think Capt Grant only, and consequently it was over-ruled. The utility I thought evident. It would have secured provisions from the other side of the River, or the Suba must have devided his forces; it would have secured the retreat of our Shipping, it might have been a retreat to ourselves, or if at last drove from it, we had it still in our power to destroy it, in such wise as to have rendered it useless, and prevented its proving a troublesome thorn in our sides, which it may possibly yet be, if ever we advance again to retake your Settlement, as our Ships must pass within allmost Pistol-shot of it. Gentlemen saw the utility of this measure too late; our Ships were sent down to attempt the possession of it; a great deal of ammunition was fruitlessly thrown away against it; our Ships received much damage, and were obliged to make an inglorious retreat, to the no small encouragement of the Enemy and our disgrace: and to sum up all the misfortunes attending this error, our Ships in their flight, with that part of the colony, who left the Fort, were, from the fire they were obliged to sustain from this Fort, and the little order observed amongst themselves, thrown into such confusion that several ran ashore, and some, the richest in the fleet fell into the Enemy's hands, and were plundered.

40. Our second capital error, with our small and un-trained Garrison, was, I conceive, the raising the three advanced Posts and Batteries to the Northward, Eastward, Southward, and at the Jail, which answered no purpose, but exhausting, harassing, & destroying the few people we had. If we, in place of this

measure, had kept our Force more united, withdrawn Piccard and his party from Baagbuzar, and taken possession with our Musketry of the Church, the Companys, Messrs Cruttenden's, Eyre's, and Omychund's Houses, the Enemy could not have approached us without infinite loss, and with hardly any possibility of success. From these Posts, close under the cover of our Guns, our troops could hardly have been attacked, much less dislodged, as we had sufficient proofs afterwards when the out-posts were withdrawn; or if there had appeared a necessity for abandoning them, the retreat to the Fort was secure; considerably less than half the number of troops station'd at the out-posts, would have been sufficient for this service, and this important consequence had followed, a regular relief for duty, of which we had none, as things were unhappily conducted, nor would that infinite confusion and disorder in the Fort have ensued, which did. On withdrawing these Batteries, the Fort had been in a manner left defenceless for the support of them, and little benefited by the return of troops, fatigued and hardly able to stand.—You have, Hon'ble Sirs, an exact plan of Your Settlement, and of every house in it, on inspection of which, you will, at one view, see the in-utility of these three principal outposts. That to the northward was erected to defend the pass between the corner of Mr. Griffiths' House, and the river side; a precaution totally useless, as you will find Mr. Griffith's house, Your Salt Petre Godowns, and the whole street were commanded by the Guns on the North East Bastion within less than Musket shot of Your Fort. That to the Eastward, as the Court House, You will find commanded by the Battery over the Eastern Gate, & from the old & New South-East Bastions within Musket shot. That to the Southward was not indeed commanded by any Gun from the Fort but Field Pieces advanced a few paces without, your Eastern Gate, would not only have commanded that, but the other two principal avenues to the Fort, if the Battery on the Gate, and the N. Et Bastion had not been deemed a sufficient defence against the approach of the Enemy, and had they advanced by the ditch to the southward of the Burying Ground, and up the avenue between that and my House, or penetrated through the Burying Ground, we still had nothing to apprehend from them, as the whole square between the southerly face of the Fort, and the Hospital, and Gate of the Burying Ground, was commanded, not only by the New S. E. Bastion, but by seven 4-Pounders on the New Godowns, and our small arms from thence and the Companys House. Had the disposition I have mentioned been made, and the Walls of the Loll Baag and those opposite the Company's House levelled, it is more than probable the Suba at last would have been obliged to retreat with his army; for it is plain he had none with him capable of erecting any Battery that could have hurt us, (that which did us most damage being our own 18 lbs turned against us from the Court House), and with their small arms, there was hardly a possibility of approaching near enough to have affected us.—My conclusions, Hon'ble Sirs, are on this head, the result of reason, and a late fatal experience, and not of Art, for I am no Soldier; but cannot help thinking such would have been the salutary deposition, had we been happy enough to have had a Soldier at our head, or a Chief Commanding Officer in any degree skilled in the art of defence; but, in place of it, lines were formed, which required ten times the number of Men to defend: Lucky we were in having an Enemy who had as little skill and address in the attack, as we in the defence, and much less resolution, or on the night of the 16th or 17th, they might have entered at four different posts, and cut off the retreat to the Fort of each of the five advanced Batteries (including Baag Bazar and the Jail), for not a Gun could have been fired to cover their retreat, but must have been equally levelled at our own troops, as at the Enemy. In the Avenue between Mr. Coates' & Omychund's Houses, We sunk a ditch and threw up a Rank within, which post, for want of people, was trusted to the Guard of 4 Pykes only. The importance of this will appear in a moment, (from the Plan of your Settlement before you,) through which the Enemy might have thrown ten thousand Men into the very centre of our lines, before, or as soon as we could have known any thing of the matter. In the Avenue North of the Court House Tank was another ditch sunk, which, from the same cause, was little better defended than the former. From the South East angle of the Park, to the Corner of Mr. Lascell's House, was a third, defended by a Corporal and 6 Men. The 4th was at the entrance into the square, the lesser Tank, by Mr. Putham's House, and defended by a detatchment from the South Advanced Battery; at neither of these four immediate posts were planted a single Cannon, and might have been forced in the night, without the loss of ten men to the Enemy, and the neglect of it cost them some thousands. I am the more particular on this subject, in proof of the error I have here censured, because, from the plan before you, you will be convinced, from the situation of those posts that the forcing any one of them in the night, would have intercepted the retreat to the Fort of the Troops stationed at all the advanced Batteries, and caused the immediate surrender of the Fort; and points out, not only the danger, and inutility of these Batterys, but the impropriety of forming an extent of line we had not Men to defend. And to compleat our blunders in engineering, a trench was sunk through Your Park, from North to South, within little more than half Muskett shot of your Bastions, the earth of which proved (after the advanced Batteries were withdrawn) a secure breast work to the Enemy, and from whence they did us the greatest injury with their Small Arms. We were, it is plain Engineers in theory only, with the additional misfortune, that those in superiour Command either had no judgment in the direction, or did not chuse to show it, whilst others who had probably better, could not with propriety interfere; to which I may add, we had neither time for projection or Execution; and still further proof, we should have remained satisfyed in occupying the Houses round us, and trusted to our Fort only.

41. A third error, and which I esteem a capital one, was the neglecting to attack the rear of that Body of Troops which supported the Enemys Center in their attack of the Jail the 18th. This Body consisted of 5,000 chosen Men and Officers. The Troops that defended this Post sustained the Enemys attack for some time in the open road, before the Jail, with two Field pieces and their small Arms; but being entirely open to the Enemy, and having some killed and several wounded, they were obliged at last to retreat under cover into the Jail with their Field pieces, having before prepared two Ambrazures for them in the wall, which commanded the Avenue through which the enemy was advancing, and the Post was obstinately and gallantly defended for a great while, under the command of Monsr. Le Beaume and Ensign Carstairs. During the attack of this Post, and just after the Troops retreated into the Jail, we projected at the centre advanced Battery, the attacking the Enemy in the rear, with 25 or 30 Men and 2 Field Pieces, to be marched from the North Battery, whilst we advanced two more from our Post, with all our Infantry and Militia, and joined the Troops at the Jail to make one general sally and attack on them in front, whilst the detachment from the Northward fell on the rear by order of Captain Clayton, who Commanded at the Centre advanced Battery. I wrote strenuously to the President, to let him know our intentions, and to request he would instantly order the detatchment, with a couple of Field Pieces, to advance into the middle Road on the Enemy's rear; to which we received answer, that "it was impossible, there were not Men to send." The error I censure on this incident, is the not sufficiently considering the importance of it, and the Troops that might have been without danger or inconvenience detatched on this Service, had the North advanced Battery been divested entirely of the Musketry station'd there, and with the volunteers sent out, the Post would have run no risque, whilst there remained only a single Officer, and people of the Train sufficient to attend the Battery; or on the march of the detachment, (if it had been judged necessary) that Battery might have been re-inforced with a detachment of the Militia from the Fort, as Ours had been the 17th at Night, under Ensign Charles Douglas, when Captain Clayton was ordered on a Piquet of 50 men, to secure the retreat, Lieutenant Blagg, and the Troops from Baagbuzar; or some People might have been draughted off from the South advanced Batterry, which had not once been (or was likely to be) attacked; the misfortune of this neglect will best appear from the allmost certain consequences which would have attended the carrying it into execution. There was no impediment that could have obstructed the detatchment arriving directly close on the back of the Enemy, who would have been between two Fires, without hardly a possibility of a tithe of the whole body escaping a repulse and slaughter, which, I am convinced, would have struck such a panick into the Enemy, as, in all humane probability, had obliged the Suba to have retreated, and droped his designs against us.—Touching the error, I am far from blaming Your President; I only regret his misfortune of having no Commanding

Military Officer near him, who could have seen at first sight, and convinced him of the important use this sally would have been to the Service.

42. The abandoning the Center Advanced Battery, at the Court House, has by some been asserted as the cause of the loss of the Fort, and consequently comes under the head of our errors, and requires consideration in the 4th Place, the more so as I am convinced much stress will be laid on this cause, by those who are totally strangers to the situation of things at that Battery, or the reasons which made it needfull to abandon it.—This Post was commanded by Captain Clayton as eldest Captain (next to the Commandant), myself as Captain of the First Company of Militia, was stationed under him. At this Battery, with a detachment of the Militia, we had on the whole, including Officers, Batallion volunteers, Militia, and Train, about 90 Men and 15 Buxerries, 2 Six Pounders Mounted on the Battery, 2 Field Pieces, and 2 Eighteen Pounders.—From the most superficial view of this Post, it was evident, to any capacity, that the Enemy would never venture to make an open attack against it; our musketry, for this reason, became useless at the Battery; the manifest and only service that could be made of them, was stationing them in the houses round us which commanded the Battery, and the lesser avenues leading to it; but this very important step not seeming to be attended to by Captain Clayton, Myself and Captain Henry Wedderburn, my Lieutenant, took the liberty to represent to him, the utility and absolute necessary of this measure. Piqued, I fear, that a thing so obvious did not occur to himself, he replyed, there was not men enough; he would not weaken his Post; though this most certainly was the only means of strengthening it. Often as we urged it, he persisted in his error; the consequence was natural; the Enemy benefiting themselves by our neglect, took possession of every house round us, and of the Play House also, after the Jail was abandoned in the afternoon, and from thence by half past 4 in the afternoon, were breaking out several loop holes bearing on our Battery. About this time the Enemy had forced the Pass by Mr. Pulham's House, and had got in multitudes within our lines. They had obliged the detachment from Captain Buchanan's Post, under Lieut^t Blagg, to retreat to the South Battery. They had also obliged the Guard by Mr. Lascell's House (which we had re-inforced with 2 Serjeants & 20 men) to retire, and were seemingly advancing to attack our Post in flank, through the Loll Baag, and intercept our retreat, but having brought one of the 18 Pounders to bear upon them, and sweep the whole Easterly side of the lesser Great Tank, we stoped their carreer with much slaughter; the Fort at the same time keeping a warm fire upon them from the Bastions. Thus circumstanced, Captain Clayton ordered me (I think about 5 afternoon) to go down to the Fort, and represent the state of the Battery, and receive orders, whether the force should be withdrawn or maintained. The orders were to withdraw it immediately, and spike up the Cannon we could not bring off. I returned with these orders, and, to my astonishment, found the 2 Eighteen Pounders, and 1 of the six Pounders on the Battery spiked up, and the Post in such confusion as bars all description. There was nothing could have prevented our bringing off the cannon, and making the most regular and soldier-like retreat, had we been commanded by an Officer of resolution and judgment; but as it was, our retreat had more the appearance of a confused rout, bringing off only one Field Piece, and the cannon spiked with so little art, that they were easily drilled and turned against us. The orders for withdrawing this Post circumstanced as it then was, carryed the utmost propriety with it (the Enemy having then made lodgments in the Theatre and Houses close round us), for though with our Cannon and CohornShells advanced without the Battery, we dislodged the Enemy from two of the Houses, to wit, Mr. Bourchiers, and that formerly belonging to Mr. Turfs; yet, in an hour more, not a Man could have appeared on the Battery, or stired in or out of the Court House, without being a dead mark to the Enemy; to say nothing of our People having been needlessly fatigued and harassed, to such a degree, that I believe, in two hours more not a man of us would have had strength enough to have walked to the Fort. On the orders being issued for abandoning our Post, precipitate orders were sent to Captain Buchannan, and Captain Lieut^t Smith, immediately to withdraw from the other two advanced Batteries, and spike up their Cannon. The reasons pleaded and urged in defence for this hasty step, was "the absolute necessity of doing

"it as soon as the Center Battery was withdrawn". To this I am obliged to object, as a reason very insufficient: if any reasons at all subsisted, for their being erected and maintained prior to the withdrawing the center Battery, they subsisted as much, if not more afterwards; at least, there was no cause in nature for the order for spiking up the cannon. The South Advanced Battery had never been attacked, the Northerly had, in the morning, and repulsed the Enemy; the only circumstance to be apprehended, was the retreat of the Troops being cut off, which was easily guarded against, as we knew the Enemy was within our lines. A reserve Battery had been thrown up cross the principal South Avenue, just opposite to the Company's House, and close under the cover of the Guns from the two Southerly Bastions, with intention that Captain Buchanan's Command should retire to it with his Cannon, in case he was obliged to retire from the advanced Battery at the Bridge; but this was never thought of. At this reserve Battery they could not have been attacked, without infinite loss to the Enemy; nor flanked from the entrenchment cut through the Park or Loll Baag, which, in its whole length, was scoured by our Small Arms from the Church; that and Mr. Eyre's House being taken possession of on abandoning the centre Battery, which likewise secured the retreat of Capt Lieut Smith's command; so that there could be no reason for quitting either of those Posts in the precipitate manner they were, which was the cause of infinite confusion amongst ourselves, and of no small encouragement to the Enemy, and proves a support to the censure I think I have justly passed on our 2nd Capital Error, that it had been a happy incident if these Out Posts had never been thought of. I must not quit this subject, without doing particular justice to Lieut. Blagg and 10 of our Volunteers, (8 of them your covenanted servants) *viz.*, Messrs Law, Ellis, Tooke, N. Drake, Chas Smith, Wilkinson, Dod, Knapton, William Parker and Mackpherson; these Gentlemen were detatched from Capt Buchanan's Post, to sustain a sergeant and 16 Men posted in Mr. Goddard's House, to defend the Post at Mr. Pulham's, and threw themselves into Captain Minchin's House, from the top of which they made a great slaughter of the Enemy; and when that Post was forced, the serjeant and his Men made a precipitate retreat to the Battery, without once thinking of the Gentlemen posted at Captain Minchin's, where these had a long & bloody conflict with a number of the Enemy, most unequall, and at last forced a retreat, glorious to themselves, but with the loss of two of their small detatchment; *viz.*, Messrs Smith & Wilkinson, who by mistake was separated from the body; the first refused quarter, and killed 5 of the Enemy before he fell; the other called for quarter, but was denyed it, and cut to pieces.

43. I have now brought you, Hon'ble Sirs, to the fifth and last act of our tragedy of errors, which brought on as fatal and melanchollY a catastrophe, I believe, as ever the annals of any people, or colony of people, suffered since the days of Adam; to wit, the Governour, Messrs Manningham, Frankland, Mackett, the Principle Officers, and a considerable part of the colony, abandoning Your Fort, Effects and Garrison, with the Ships and Vessells, whereby the retreat of those who remained were to all intents and purposes cut off, to the number of about 170 Persons, and left a sacrifice to an exasperated and merciless Enemy; amongst those, four of your Council, a great number of your principal and valuable Covenanted Servants, Three Military Captains, Several Commanders of Ships, 8 or 9 Commissioned Officers, many of the principal Inhabitants, and others. Our proceedings in this distressfull situation, I have in few words summed up in my Letter of the 17th July from the capital of the Province, which I beg leave to repeat here, lest that Letter by any accident should not have reached you.

> "Mr. Pearkes waving his right of seniority, He, with the Gentlemen of Council, in Council with the unanimous approval of the Gentlemen in the service, the Garrison and Inhabitants, elected me their Governour & administrator of your Affairs during the troubles, and suspended your late President, and Messrs Manningham, Frankland, and Mackett, from your service, for this breach of trust; as also the Military Officers who accompanyed them."

In my Letter above referred to, I indiscrimately blamed the whole who had left us, in which I may well be excused, for I had it not then in my power to make the just distinctions and exceptions I have here already done; for, in truth, it can be incumbent only on your Governour, and Commander-in-Chief, and the Gentlemen of Council, and the Officers who accompanyed him in this defection, to vindicate, if possible, this piece of conduct; nor can it be wondered, that those neither in trust or command, should quit a cause, where those who bore the highest distinctions in both, deserted it: That the Fort was not tenable, is a truth cannot be contradicted, any more than that a general retreat, with all Effects, publick and private, might, with ease, have been effected, had those on whom it rested, done their duty. When I mention a General Retreat, I would be understood to mean no more than of the European Inhabitants, the Garrison and their Familys; as for the multitude of others which were (by an infatuation not to be accounted for) admited into the Fort, to the number of 6,000 at least, they must have been abandoned; they would have suffered nothing by being left behind, and have caused much embarrassment and distress to the whole by being embarked. As I have before done justice to the Officers of Militia and others, who were embarked without (I am convinced) having any intention to abandon the Fort, I must in this place likewise render justice, to the best of my knowledge and information, to the character of one of your Board, Mr. William Mackett: This Gentleman had the Command of the 2nd Company of Militia, and on the 17th at Night went to see his lady (and children) on Board the *Dodaly* where, about 11 at night, he left her dangerously ill as she was and returned to the Fort, though the strongest persuasives, I am well informed, were used to detain him on Board. Could any consideration or plea been prevalent enough to shake that of honour, the situation of this Gentlemen's Family, joined to those persuasions, would have swayed his stay; but he returned to the duty, his honour called him, and with the consent and approbation of M^rs^ Mackett. Early on the morning of the 19th, the President, Mr. Mackett, the Reverend Mr. Mapletoft, myself and others were employed in cuting open the bales of Cotton, and filling it in Baggs, to carry upon the Parapets; then (I recollect) Mr. Mackett intimated to me the unhappy condition he left his lady in the preceding night, and expressed his desire and intention to step on Board for five minutes, to see her: that this was the sole motive of his going without any design of abandoning the Fort, I am in my sentiments convinced of; and is, I think, proved by the whole of his behaviour during the Siege, and his return to the Fort from the *Dodaly* the preceding night. With equall pleasure I would embrace any, even probable, appearance to justify the conduct of your other Servants in higher trust; against whom I with more real concern say, the charge lyes too heavy & obvious to admit of extenuation. The proof, and supporting this charge, I could wish a task imposed on any body else; but none unluckily, but myself is equall to it, as none can be so well acquainted with the circumstances attending it; and however galling the remembrance of my own chains, sufferings & losses may be, they shall not influence me to deviate from truth, though such remembrance may urge me to terms of seeming bitterness, hardly unavoidable, when those sufferings can be attributed to naught but the unaccountable conduct I am now impeaching—a conduct which (however palliated by a thousand frivolous reasons) will justly lay Your President, & Mess^rs^ Manningham & Frankland open to the censure of Breach of Trust, of the highest imprudence and inconsistence, and prove them strangers to the very dictates of humanity.

44. In what degree either of the above named Gentlemen may appear less culpable than the others, or really are so, is not my business to determine; this, Hon'ble Sirs, I will leave to Your judgment & sentence, whilst I give you as faithfull a statement of the facts, as is in my power; that, Mess^rs^ Manningham's & Frankland's falling down from the Fort with the *Dodaly*, and refusing to return to it, and join our Councils the night of the 18th, though more than once summoned, to it by Your President, were the primary causes, all the confusion that ensued, will, I think, hardly admit of contest: the defence those Gentlemen make to exculpate themselves, stand on the face of the Fulta Consultations of the 14th July last, and are replyed to by me, on my return from Ballasore, in a Letter to the Board at Fulta, under date the 25th of October last, Copy of which I hereunto annex; the departure of the *Dodaly* (of which those Gentlemen were part Owners) and their refusal to return, were the cause of jealousies and fears, which otherwise would never have existed; and the Garrison are well vindicated in their conclusions, (that when Gentlemen, who bore the most dis-

tinguished characters both civil and Military, had quitted & refused to return to their trust, and duty, every man was providing for himself the best he could. The Captain of the *Dodaly* exculpates himself, by producing from Your President an order of the 15th June, purporting, that he should obey all such orders as he should receive from himself or Mr. Manningham; and these Gentlemen take the advantage of this order, to prove their power, and extenuate their departing with the Ship; a Power which devolved to Mr. Manningham for quite another purpose, and cannot be wrested, with either truth or propriety, to the purpose it is now produced to serve, as Your President can well witness. The inspection and necessary orders to be issued in matters relative to the marine, was offered and undertaken by Mr. Manningham, to ease the President and not with the intention that he should be thereby empowered to distress him and the garrison with the defection of that Ship, and of quiting a trust which opened the way, and was I believe, in some measure, the cause of Your President quiting his trust also on the succeeding morning, though I offer it not in sufficient vindication of a conduct not to be vindicated, in one who bore the character of Governour & Commander-in-Chief of Your Fort & Garrison. That things were in the utmost confusion I admit; That no proper order, rule or command was observed, is most true; That the proceedings of Messrs Manningham & Frankland were suspicious and allarming, I grant; but on whom will all this reflect and recoil? Had, on the first refusal these Gentlemen made to join our Councils at this important juncture, the Ship been remanded back, under the cover of our Guns, and a detatchment sent to bring them to their duty, in place of their being suffered to wait for one to defend the Ship from the hazard they themselves had brought her into, without orders or knowledge of any one in the Garrison, the measure would have spoke the Commander & Governour-in-Chief; a thousand mischiefs had been avoided, nor he himself reduced the next day to the unhapply dilemma which at last ended in his following their example, to the destruction of those left behind; and with the knowledge, that neither the Company's Treasure, Books, or essential Papers were embarked, no more than the immense property then deposited in the Fort, consisting of your own effects, and of a multitude of others, left miserable and indigent by the desertion; in having all means cut off from them of saving it, and with those very Ships which were employed and destined for its preservation. Fortitude is not given to every one; and I may most justly plead excuse for any failure arising from our want of Military knowledge; it could not be expected from us, but every act of common prudence will; if the lives of so many brave and valuable Men, who perished by this conduct, merited no regard, these Gentlemen own support with their employers depended on their having a regard to their Effects entrusted to their charge; as Treasurers, it was incumbent chiefly on them to see that the Treasure was embarked; this was a measure judged eligible in a Council of War, before the Fort was judged not tenable, and sure ought immediately to have been carryed into execution. That Coolys could not be obtained to carry that and the Company's books off, as alledged on the face of the Fulta Consultation, must appear to every body then in Garrison, and indeed to the whole world, a pretence to palliate a needless panick, disorder and neglect. That many Effects were that night embarked, is a truth known to every body; and on suppositions there was not a cooley in the Fort, a single to paz could have Embarked the last years Books, the consultation, and the essential papers. But it must appear a fact beyond contradiction, that these, and everything else, were sacrificed & abandoned to the consideration of these Gentlemen's own safety, though that no ways endangered, but from the steps taken to secure it; for had we been joined in our Councils, and the Ships continued under the protection of our Guns, or brought back, and any the least command exerted, we had it our power to leave the Suba the bare walls of your Fort, only without a Gun in it that could have been of any use to him, or injury to us or the Shipping. Had we remained united in our force, and any proper spirit shewn, and examples made, what could have been apprehended from a few drunken Dutch Soldiers, or a few Seditious amongst the rabble of the Militia; the President, Council, Officer, Gentlemen in the Service, Volunteers, & principal inhabitants, were surely more than equall to quell any tumult that could have been raised by those, to have obstructed an orderly Retreat with every thing of value deposited in the Fort. Had this been done with proper coolness & resolution, &. the whole Colony proceeded as early in August as the Fleet could push out to Fort S^t George, with the Effects, publick and private, immense had been the gain to both; there proper measures might have been expeditiously consulted and adopted, for the re-establishment of the Settlement; and the remains of our shattered and distressed Colony would have met repose and shelter: this step would have been eligible, even in the wretched circumstances they retired; but the misfortune is, errors are fruitfull, and generally beget one another; the panick which first seized the Gentlemen in Command, never lost its influence; the little saved was, in the general confusion, lost at Tanners and Buzbudgea: and in place of continuing their route to Fort S^t George, the alternative of residing at Fulta was determined on, and such advices forwarded to that Presidency by Mr. Manningham, as made it a case of necessity to remain there, under such disadvantages and distresses as I believe hardly ever a wretched people laboured, and at an immense expence to yourselves in supporting the Colony, and Freight of Ships for their reception and defence; part of your expence, indeed, daily lessened, by the multitudes of deaths here, which has proved a grave to a large portion of the Colony, and to more than half the detachment and Officers, sent under Major Killpatrick; all which might have been avoided by a prudent procedure to Madrass, as above. Why this was not done, in preference to the advices sent, and our miserable residence here, I am a stranger, and have not yet received or heard one tolerable reason to support the measure. It has been alledged, the quitting the River would have been giving up the cause; had this been done it would have been only giving up a cause already lost, and which they themselves had first abandoned: The Fleet quitting the River, would have lulled the Enemy into a security which would greatly have facilitated the re-taking Your Settlement; whereas our residence in it have kept them on the allarm, and preparations are made for the defence of it, which probably would never been thought of. Nor is it possible, in my conception, to account for this strange perseverance in misery, heavey charge to yourselves, but from these two motives, which swayed the Councils of those Gentlemen who had quitted your Fort, Garrison & Effects, whilst they bore the first characters of Command in it. Conscious and self condemned of a conduct not to be vindicated, it became necessary that one of their own body should be dispatched to give the first impression of it; had they proceeded with the Colony, a hundred mouths would have been open to report their conduct as well as their own. This, Hon'ble Sirs, must, I think, have been the principle they acted on, to allow them the shadow of consistence; if the Gentlemen support their remaining in the River from other even probable reasons, I will be the first to retract my sentiments; not my sentiments alone, but that of near the whole Colony. More, I think, I need not say in support of my charge against these Gentlemen; that they justly incurr the censure of Breach of Trust, have acted with the highest imprudence, and been consistent in nothing but errors, from the first moment they meditated abandoning your Fort in the manner they did; it remains only that I prove they might safely have retrieved this unhappy step, by a return to it with all the Ships, and that, by this neglect, they not only further merit the censure I have already passed on them, but that of being strangers also to the very dictates of humanity.

45. The *Dodaly* (with Mess^rs Manningham & Frankland) and some other vessells, fell down the River the 18^th at Night. Your President, with the rest of the Ships, vessells and Boats, followed them the 19^th, about Nine in the forenoon. They lay in sight of our Fort, and Flagg flying, untill the 20^th. About Eleven forenoon saw the *S^t. George*, our last resource was aground, and could not come down to our Succour, and heard us engaged with the enemy during all this period.—They knew the desperate state they had left and abandoned us in; without all possibility or means to escape or retreat; and this their own doing: They were sensible, we had not ammunition to defend the Fort two days, or, if we had, that our strength, with continued fatigued, watching, and action, was exhausted, and that we were reduced to the wretched alternatives of either sacrificing our lives, by resolving to dye sword in hand, or surrender ourselves to an enraged and merciless Enemy; and yet neither Ship, Vessell, or Boat was sent to favour our retreat, enquire what was our fate, or whether we existed, or

had perished. To palliate this (I believe, unequalled in humanity,) the danger of returning with the Ships has been, I hear, alledged.—Capt. Grant, in his letter to us, in vindication of himself, the 20th August, asserts, he more than once urged your President to move up with all the Ships and Sloops before the Fort, once in the presence of Capt. Young, Commander of the *Dodaly*, who represented it as a dangerous attempt. I submit it to you, Hon'ble Sirs, to determine, whether your President ought to have remained satisfyed with an answer of this kind, or whether the Ships would have run greater risque in moving up to the Fort, than they did in moving down from it; or if there actually had been danger in the attempt, of which there was not even the shadow, whilst we remained in possession of the Fort, was the preservation of the lives of so many brave and valueable men as were cooped up in it, with your treasure, effects, books, &ca. of such small estimation with these Gentlemen, as not to merit one attempt to retrieve them, though even this attempt had been attended with danger? But it has been urged, that they were at no certainty whether we were in possession of the Fort, or not, and by some conjectured, that we had surrendered, or the place taken by assault, and that the Flagg was only kept flying by the Enemy to decoy the Fleet back.—But if these were the doubts which actuated them, why did they not satisfy themselves? A single Sloop or Boat sent up in the night of the 19th, might have hailed us on the Bastions, without risque, even had the place been in possession of the Enemy, the contrary of which they would have been ascertained in, and the Fleet might have moved up that night. This motion would have put fresh spirits in us, and given dismay to the Enemy, already not a little disheartened by the numbers slain in the day when dislodged from the houses round us, and otherways, particularly by our Shells and Cannon at Lady Russells and the Court House. Had the Ships moved up, and our Forces re-united, and part of the ammunition on board them dis-embarked for the service of the Fort, the Suba at last might have been obliged to retreat with his army, or at worst the effects might have been shipped off the 20th, even in the face of the Enemy, without having power to obstruct it, and a general retreat been made of the whole Garrison, as glorious to ourselves, all circumstances considered, as a Victory would have been; the Gentlemen would then have found a plan ready formed, to the minutest circumstance, for a general retreat, that would have been attended with no disorder, confusion, or difficulty, if proper resolution and Command had appeared: Had your President, as was encumbent on him, hoisted his Flagg on board the *Dodaly*, of which he was likewise part owner, and moved up even the 20th, not a Man or Vessell but would have followed him, and he would then have been early enough to have given a new face to things; but, in place of that, rendered himself totally inexcusable, by not only quitting us himself, but in letting others, and amongst them some of the Officers of the Militia then on board the *Dodaly*, that the retreat was general; thereby cooling the resolutions and endeavours of those who were returning to us, and had never once entertained a thought of quitting the Fort. The want of boats has been another cause alledged for a general retreat not being practicable. Were there any grounds for this assertion, where did the fault lye? Though there might have been few Boats at the Crane Gat, when the President went off, yet it is a known truth, that the Wharf to the right and left were lined with them, and that not one of them stirred from the shore, untill immediately after he put off, when they all rowed cross the River, most of them with grain on board; and this desertion occasioned by neglect of the obvious measure of having a sufficient guard over them. But to obviate every excuse that can possibly be urged against the facility with which we could have made the retreat general, I will suppose there had not a Country Boat existed, those belonging to the Ships, and the small craft, brought close in shore, would have been amply sufficient to have embarked the effects, garrison, and their familys, which we had not at all dispaired of effecting, even with the *St. George's* 3 or 4 Boats, (had she happily came down to our succour) and the assistance of Captain Witherington's Pinnace then lying at the Crane. But, in short, Hon'ble Sirs, it is not to be wondered at, that, in a panick such as here evidently possessed those in the chief command and direction, means the most obvious should either not occurr, or be neglected; nor that handles, the most weak and improbable, should be laid hold of, to extenuate the conduct resulting from it. As such I think myself justifyed, in treating every reason advanced in vindication of these Gentlemen quiting your Fort, in the manner they did, and not returning, when they had it so demonstrable in their power, and thereby losing the means of saving Your Treasure, Books, & Effects; by preserving the lives of the many gallant worthy men, who persisted in their defence, and thus fell a sacrifize; of preventing the fears of the fatherless children and widows, left destitute and unhappy, as well as those of the many parents and relations, deprived thus of the ornaments of their familys, in the miserable death of a number of the most promising youths you ever had in your Service; and lastly, of saving myself, and others, your faithfull Servants, from chains, shame, and imprisonment, with other distresses and sufferings hardly to be described.

46. This subject, Hon'ble Sirs, disagreeable as it is, I must not quit, without speaking to an aspersion which has been spread in the Fleet, and I doubt not elsewhere, "That those who were left behind, and some of the principal of "them intended going, had not the means of doing it been cut off from them, "and so made a virtue of necessity." This assertion I will venture to term bold as well as base, being founded on the conjecture only of some, with impotent hopes to reduce others on a level with themselves; the intentions of the heart are impenetrable but to the breast it dwells in, therefore I can only say, I solemnly believe that not a man left in the Fort had any Intention or design of quiting it, but in a general retreat, nor could aught be discovered in their behaviour, that either did then or could since give me cause to alter my sentiments. As to myself, against whom I don't question but this slander is chiefly aimed; it has been also as audaciously said, that I was not only privy to your President's going away, but was to have gone with him; of both he has honourably and publickly acquited me; my knowing myself free from this scandalous imputation of intending to quit Your Fort (otherwise than in a general retreat) is not enough, it is my duty to convince my Hon'ble Masters likewise, that such could not be any design; if it had, my motives were superiour, the means equally in my power, and the reflection less, in proportion to the less Command and trust invested in me. These Gentlemen declare they embarked no private effects belonging either to themselves or constituents. The *Diligence* now lying at my Gat, I sent Orders the 18th afternoon from the out Battery, to embark my Cash, Plate, essential Papers, and some Jewells, and in all to the value of about Fifty to Fifty-two Thousand Arcot Rupees, which was done by my own people, my servants having before brought me word every Cooly in the settlement was employed in emptying the Rice Boats at the Factory, so that they could not get people to carry them to the Fort, where most people's valuable effects were deposited. My Godowns being unfortunately full of heavy and cumbersome Goods, there was no possibility of embarking them, or depositing them in the Fort, though my house so far detatched as surely to be one of the first possessed and plundered by the Enemy, which so happened. Had my intentions been to abandon the settlement, the temptation was great, and still greater, as the whole remains of my fortune then in Calcutta was embarked, the means in my own hands, the vessell under no command but my own, without any possibility of my being obstructed the whole Night of the 18th, or the morning of the 19th. If such had been my design, I might have laid hold of the pretence to accompany Mrs. Drake, and the Ladys embarked on Board the *Diligence*, about eleven the Night of the 18th, or afterwards, when I requested and sent Monsr Le Beaume, with three of my Servants to embark on board that Vessell, for the greater security of her and the ladies. Such were the opportunies, and such were the temptations I had to have quitted Your Fort, but the thought never entered my breast, nor that it could enter the breast of any one else, with the certainty there was of the retreat being general the succeeding Night; That I neither did go nor had a sentiment that tendered to it, I am still happy in; notwithstanding all my sufferings; and though with this reflection, that I had gone, I had in all humane probability saved the above remains of my Fortune, which fell a prey to the Enemy the 21st, at Buddgea, without any one friendly, humane or salutary step being taken by the Fleet, or those who commanded in it to preserve her: the Officer on board, having weighed in the general rout, and ompanied the other Ships without my orders or knowledge. As to our made "a virtue of necessity," these Gentlemen should be the last to

reproach us, or take an advantage even in expression of the necessity they had reduced us to; that any has assumed a virtue from it, I do not believe; we did our duty and no more, in defending your property as long as was in our power, which certainly is a virtue comparatively considered, to those who did not do their duty.

47. Thus, Hon'ble Sirs, I have with strict truth to the utmost of my knowledge and remembrance, traced out and laid before you, the causes and various capital errors, which caused the loss of your Presidency and your Settlements in the Provinces. Necessary as it has been, I am sensible by what I felt myself on this subject, how unpleasing to you; therefore will not give you further pain, than in the addition of a few lines, explaining the manner your Fort was surrendered, on which I find I have in my Letters from Muxadavad and Hughley been rather too short.

48. Having been much pressed at different times on the 20th, by the Gentlemen of Council and others, to throw out a Flagg of Truce, I opposed it as much as possible, foreseeing the little utility would arise from it, considering the Enemy we had to deal with, and that they were as perfectly acquainted with our distressed situation, as we ourselves; however, to quiet the minds of everybody as much as in my power I caused a Letter to be wrote the 20th, early in the morning, by Omychund, who was left a prisoner in the Fort, to Raja Monick Chund to the following purport.—"That, as he and his house had allways been a friend and tenant to the English, we hoped to experience it on this occasion, and that he would use his influence with the Suba, to order his Troops to cease hostilities; that we were ready to obey his commands, and persisted only in defending the Fort, in preservation of our lives & honours." At this period I was at no certainty of the Suba's being at the Siege, and all the hopes I had from this Letter, or a Flagg of Truce, was to amuse untill the St. *George* came down, and that we might have the night to make our general retreat in. About noon, as I before observed, the Enemy was repulsed from the attacks they made this day to the Northward, and a cessation on both sides ensued for more than two hours, and not one of the Enemy were to be seen; the Gentlemen of Council, Officers and Inhabitants, still pressing me, I was prevailed on to consent to a Flagg of Truce being thrown out before dark. About 4 afternoon, word was brought me that some of the Enemy was advancing with a Flagg in his hand, and called us to cease firing, and that we should have quarter if we surrendered: this was judged a favourable juncture to answer it with a Flagg of Truce; accordingly I repaired with the Flagg on the original S. E. Bastion, where Captain Buchannan was then posted, and ordered firing to cease. I had a letter prepared with me, addressed to Roy Doolub, the General of his Forces, "importing an overture to cease hostilities, untill the Suba could be wrote to, and his pleasure known." This Letter I throw over the ramparts, and hoisted the Flagg of Truce on the Bastion, the Letter was taken up by the person who advanced with the Flagg, who retired with it: soon after, multitudes of the Enemy came out of their hiding places round us, and flocked under the walls; a short-parley ensued, I demanded a Truce to Hostilities, untill the Suba's pleasure could be known; to which I was answered by one of his Officers from below, that the Suba was there, and his pleasure was that we should immediately strike our colours and surrender the Fort, and ourselves, and that we should have quarter. I was going to reply, when at that instant Mr. William Baillie, standing near me; was slightly wounded by a Muskett ball from the Enemy, on the side of his head, and word was brought me that they were attempting to force S. W. Barrier, and were cuting at the Eastern Gate. On being ascertained of this, I ordered Captain Buchanan to point a cannon from the Bastion, which flanked the Eastern Curtain and told them to withdraw from the Walls or I would instantly fire amongst them; they withdrew, and I immediately took down the Flagg of Truce, and steped to the Parade to issue orders for a general discharge of our Cannon and small Arms. The manner I arrived there, Captain Dickson, (who now commands the *Lively Grabb* at present in your service) and just after him Ensign Walcot came running to me and told me the Western Gate was forced by our own people and betrayed. I instantly sent Ensign Walcot with orders to see if there was no possibility of securing it again; he returned and told me it was impossible, for the Locks and Bolt were forced off. On this I returned to Captain Buchanan's Post, and found some of the Enemys colours

planted on the Bastion. I asked him how he came to suffer it; He replyed he found farther resistance was vain, for that the moment I had left him, advice was brought him of the Western Gate being betrayed, and returning myself I saw below multitudes of the Enemy, who had entered that way, and others who had scaled by the S. W. Bastion, and the new Godowns,—that Bastion and the Barrier, as I afterwards learnt, having been deserted at the time the Western Gate was forced. To the first Jemmautdaar who scaled at the Bastion I advanced, and delivered my Pistols; he told me to order instantly the Colours to be cut down; I replyed, I would give no such orders, they were marched to the Fort, and might order it themselves; he demanded my sword, I refused to give it, but in presence of the Suba, on which the Jemmautdaar carryed it to the ramparts, opposite to where the Suba was below, without the Walls, from thence I made him the customary Salaam, and delivered my sword to His Jemmautdaar; the Suba from his Litter returned my Salaam, and moved round to the Northward and entered the Fort by the small Western Gate. I had three interviews with him that evening, one in Durbar. At first he expressed much resentment at our presumption, in defending the Fort against his Army with so few men, asked why I did not run away with my Governour, &^{ca} seemed much disappointed and dissatisfyed at the Sum found in the Treasury, asked me many questions on this subject, to all which I made the best replys that occurred, and in the conclusion he assured me on the word of a soldier that no harm should come to me, which he repeated more than once. The consequence proved how little regard was paid to this assurance, for I was with the rest of my fellow sufferers, about 8 at night cramed into the Black Hole Prison, and passed a night of horrors I will not attempt to describe, as they bar all description. On the ensuing morning, the (21st June) I was taken out from amongst the dead, and again carryed before the Suba more dead than alive; he seemed little affected, I told him the miserable catastrophe of my companions; he answered me by sayed he was well informed there was an immense treasure buryed or secretted in the Fort, and that I was privy to it, and commanded me to point out where it was hid, if I expected favour (one of his Jemmautdaars had told me on the way the cause of my being sent for, & advised me to make a full discovery, or that I should be shot of from the mouth of a Cannon the next half hour). I urged every thing possible against the information he had received, or that if such a thing had been done, I was totally a stranger to it; but all I could say seemed to gain no credit with the Suba, who ordered me a prisoner, under charge of one of His Generals, Mhir Modun, and with me Mess^{rs} Court, Walcot & Burdet, as intimated in my Letter from Muxadavad, to which Letter I beg leave to refer for the account of our subsequent sufferings, and to subscribe myself, with the most perfect Respect and Duty,

HON'BLE SIRS,

FULTA,

The 30th November 1756.

Your ever faithfull and

Obedient Humble Ser^{v}

I. Z. HOLWELL.

To—The Hon'ble the Secret Committee for affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

HON'BLE SIRS,—

1. As we deem it of the utmost importance to the Company to transmit the advice of our re-establishment by every channel in our power we have desired the Gentlement at Fort S^{t} George to forward this Packett *viâ* Bussorah, if there is any conveyance under dispatch from thence to the Gulph of Persia, otherwise to send it under cover to the President & Council of Bombay to be forwarded to Europe.

2. We have now the pleasure to inform you, Hon'ble Sirs, that Fort William was re-taken by Admiral Watson on the 2nd Instant, and the next day delivered

up by him to your President & Council with the Guns, Military Stores, and effects, publick & private, for the benefit and on the behalf of the Proprietors. In your Warehouse was found a considerable quantity of Export Goods, with which we purpose to dispatch home the *Delawar* some time this month if possible. We shall likewise endeavour to return the *Walpole* & *Marlbro'* to Fort S^t George with as much Salt Petre as we can procure to be dispatched home from thence.

3. That this important intelligence may reach you as early as possible we are preparing the *Syreen* sloop to proceed to England with it, & hope to get her away from hence in eight or ten days. By her and the *Delawar* we shall address you more particularly and remain with the greatest respect,

Hon'ble Sirs,

Your most Faithfull & most

Obedient Humble Servants,

ROGER DRAKE, Jun^r.

W^m WATTS.

JAMES KILLPATRICK.

RICH^d BECHER.

I. Z. HOLWELL.

Fort William,

The 8^th January 1757.

To—The Hon'ble Roger Drake, Esq^re., Presd^t & Gov^r of Fort William, &c^a Council.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,—

As Mr. Holwell in his Letter to the Court of Directors of the 30^th of Nov^r last, has arraigned my conduct in regard to the loss of Cossim^r Factory, I must beg leave to reply in a few lines, & set him right in some particulars which he has mis-represented. He says, he wonders why Mr. Batson & I, would trust ourselves in the camp, when we knew Mr. Watts was a prisoner, to which I reply that when we were sent for as it was told us to finish the dispute with the Nabob we did not know Mr. Watts was prisoner, any more than that he was detained, till we arrived to sign the Machulka, tho' on our arrival in the Camp it was neither presented, nor mentioned to us, nor did we ever sign it or see it, notwithstanding Mr. Holwell's affirmation that we did. Again he says that I wrote from Cossim^r that I was obliged to deliver up the Factory—I wrote that the next day after Mr. Watts, Mr. Batson, & self, went to the Camp, we were told on the road by Roy Doolub that the Nabob insisted on having our Cannon & ammunition, but that nothing else should be touched. We stop'd for some time, & after consulting together agreed to deliver them, (for reasons we have already given our Hon'ble Masters in Mr. Watts & my Letter from Candernagore). The person pitched on to deliver them was myself, & I was sent with a Guard of the Nabob's to the Factory for that purpose. On my arrival at the Factory Gate, I told the Officer he must deliver up the Cannon & ammunition to the person who was come to receive them; he accordingly set about it and many of the Cannon were taken out when Mr. Batson was sent back to the Factory, and I was carried again to the Camp, so that during my stay neither the Keys of the Gates of the Godowns, or of the Compy^s Treasure were either delivered or demanded, so that I could not write what never happened, that I delivered up the Factory.

In regard to Mr. Holwell's insisting so much that we ought to have made some defence tho' never so little, I shall reply that had we imagined the Gentlemen of Calcutta were determined to go to the extremities they did, & not come to terms with the Nabob, it might have been right for us to have sacrificed ourselves to prolong their fate; but as we concluded that money was the only thing wanted tho' it was never expressly demanded, nor indeed is it ever at first. But some fault is found with our conduct, & money afterwards quiets all, (for as to Alliverde Cawn's last dying speech to his Nephew, I look on it as a specious fable), I say judging it as, we thought it more prudent to act as we did than go to blows, which had we done & affairs afterwards been compromised with the Nabob by the Calcutta Gentlemen, I believe I need not say who would have been the first to have accused us of rashly & imprudently involving the Comp^ys^ Affairs.

Since Mr. Holwell has been so kind as to wish we may be able to vindicate ourselves, I must say I wish he may be as able, so that neither his conscience or the world may accuse him of acting since the first rise of these unhappy troubles otherwise than for the Comp^ps^ Interest. I thank God I can lay my hand on my heart without accusing myself of any malpractice or deceit thro' this whole affair. If I have err'd in judgment I readily submit to the censure of my employers & of the whole world, Mr. Holwell excepted.

I am with respect,
HONBLE SIR & SIRS,
Your most Obedt. hum. Servt.,
M. COLLET.

CALCUTTA,
The 22nd Jan^y^ 1757.

To—WILLIAM WATTS, Esq^re^., &c^a^ Council of Fort William.

GENTLEMEN,—

In an address to the Gentlemen of Council at Fulta, under date 31^st^ October last, it was my particular request that those Gentlemen would be pleas'd jointly or separately to give into Council their accusations in writing of the whole censure that in their judgements I merited by the late misfortune that befell our Colony; and that they would fix such limited time they should think sufficient for others of that Colony to lay my blame before them, that in return I should give the speediest reply expected for the determination of those whose Servants they are as well as myself. In part those Gentleman of Council indulg'd my request in making the following Minute. In consequence of the President's Letter agreed, that every Member of this Board deliver in what he may have to alledge against Mr. Drake's conduct within one month from this Day; refusing my desire to publish for any accusations against me to be brought by the inhabitants who were on the spot of Calcutta from the beginning of our troubles with the Country Government to the capture of this Settlement by the Moors, that evasion of my request caused me to publish for my accusers, and to place up at every Ship's mast at Fulta, and at the most publick place on shore, the following advertisement, that I might have knowledge of what by the public was laid to my charge, and time to respond to false accusations, and to acknowledge all truths in such accusations contained, which I purpose by replying to the vague assersions and chimeras of some brains fruitfull at invention and credulous to idle tales. Let it here be premised that such parts of their Letters or minutes I do not speak too are by me acknowledg'd as facts. Advertisment to the late inhabitants of Calcutta and others under the protection of the English Flagg at Fulta and on board Ships anchor'd there.

Whereas it has been my request to the Gentlemen of Council that they will be pleased jointly or separately to acquant me publickly of the censure that in their judgment I merit by the late misfortune that has befell our Settlement of Calcutta, and which they have asserted to deliver in one month from the dated hereof, so I hope to be granted by you Gentlemen the indulgence of being accus'd of such actions you may think me blameable in committing within that time, and that you will be pleased to deliver such your accusations founded on truth either to the Gentlemen in Council in their publick capacity, or addressed to any one separate member, or to him who is,

GENTLEMEN,
Your most obed^t^ humble Servant,
ROGER DRAKE, *Jun^r^.*

SHIP FORT WILLIAM,
off Fulta 31^st^ Octo^r^ 1756.

2. Which advertisment tho' I have patiently waited to this time has only brought in the following Letters and minutes on the Consultations:—

One Letter from Mr. Becher at Kedgeree, dated the 26th Novr, & delivered into Council the 1st Decr last.

One Letter from Mr. Becher & Council at Dacca to the Court of Directors, dated the 12th July, and deliver'd into Council the 10th Instant.

One Letter from Mr. Becher & Council at Dacca to the Govr & Council of Madrass, dated the 13th July, and delivered into Council the 10th Inst.

A minute made by Mr. Pearkes at Fulta the 1st December last.

One Letter from Messrs Watts and Collett to the Court of Directors, dated the 16th July, & delivered into Council the 18th Instant.

One Letter from Mr. Holwell to the Court of Directors dated the 30th Novr, and delivered into Council the 20th Decr last.

3. It may not be insufficient to remark that I called for and minuted in Council the 7th Decr last that every Gentleman would lay before the Board such advices as they had separately transmitted to the Presidencies of Madrass Bombay, or to Europe since the 20th June last, which has been the consequence of the above mentioned Letters being laid before us, & to which my answer will be set forth, as I have rang'd them, further observing that some are screen'd, & I naturally conclude they are too full of aspersions and false weak reflections to be exposed to the perusal of the Secretary at our Board, but intended to gloss over the part the authors thereof have acted to the prejudice of some of their fellow servants, giving them no opportunity of vindicating their characters before conclusion is had thereon by the Court of Directors, a Proceeding which in itself shou'd obviate what in those Letters carry the face of scandal aspersion and reflection.

4. Referring to Mr. Becher's Letter under date the 26th Novr last, that Gentleman condemns my conduct in that I granted protection or admitted into Calcutta Kessendass, that I refus'd to receive the Nabob's Perwannah, and insulted the messenger. The assuming to myself such an authority to act without the advice or acquainting my Council thereof. My not using proper means to accomodate matters when I found the Nabob irritated, and not securing on board the Ships the Company's Books, papers, and Treasure, and finally abandoning the Fort in the manner I did: To all which accusations I reply that the admission of Kissendass into Calcutta was permitted by Mr. Manningham in my absence on a visit to Ballasore, where I went after the Dispatch of our last European Ship that Season the 9th of March, and returned the 21st of said month. Kissendass I think arrived here the 16th and he or some of his people introduced a Letter from Mr. Watts to Mr. Manningham, with one enclosed for myself under a flying seal, to the following purport, as far as my remembrance leads me: That an application had been made to him by Rajabullob (who is father to Kissendass) requesting we wou'd admitt him Rajabullob's Family into Calcutta for the space of two months untill one of the women was brought to bed, & able to proceed on her journey to Jaggernaut Pagad, & strenuously recommended we would not refuse that request as Rajabullob was likely to hold great posts in the Government, and might from such favour shewn his family be instrumental of giving a uninterrupted currency to our business at Dacca and its dependances, which recommendation from Mr. Watts, who then was so nearly situated to the Durbar of Muxadavad, drew a grant from Mr. Manningham to admitt Kissendass, his Family & attendants into our bounds. I think Messrs Frankland and Holwell are able to testifye that such a Letter was penned by Mr. Watts, nor would I be understood to throw any blame on Mr. Manningham for having had regard thereto. Had I been present on Kissendass & his arrival I shou'd certainly have adhered to so strong a recommendatory Letter from our Chief at Cossimbuzar, nor was any Disturbance surmised would happen on account of that Family's residence here, or on any other account untill about the 15th of April, when a Perwannah arrived said to contain an immediate demand from the Nabob of Rajabullob's Family and Wealths, which leads me to answer Mr. Becher's second accusation, that I refus'd to receive the said Perwannah and insulted the messenger; that the Perwannah was refus'd to be received by Messrs Manningham, Holwell, and myself is a fact, and the

Messenger was ordered out of the bound, our then reasons that induced us to act, were, that this Messenger or rather Spy came into our bounds in disguise, & his first foot on shore was at Omychund's House, who received him privately, and a Perwannah for himself tending as we learnt to this purport that he Omychund was to interest himself to obtain the immediate delivery of Raja Bullub's Sons and Family to Narrandass brother to Rajeram, the Nabobs head Spy. This first arbitrary and unusual proceeding of the New Nabob before his having advis'd our Presidency (as has ever been customary on change of Government) of his succession to the Government, caus'd a suspicion that the said Perwannah had been wrote without his consent or knowledge, and not at that time having had any intelligence from Mr. Watts that such a person had been dispatched by the Nabob, joined with the fear Omichund shewed on the occasion, determin'd us to reject the Perwannah (which Mr. Manningham or myself never had a sight of), and to order Narrandass instantly out of our bounds, and if that Gentleman & Mr. Holwell will recollect, I think they must acknowledge, I then produced Mr. Watt's his original letter recommending in most strenuous terms the reception of that family into our Settlement, with two or three others certifying how useful the retaining Rajabullob in our interest would be, who was likely to hold great posts in the Government, at the same instant I was required by those Gentlemen to acquaint Mr. Watts of the clandestine manner whereby Narrandass stole into our bounds, of our refusal to receive the Perwannah, and his being ordered to quit our settlement, to which Mr. Watts reply'd that our Vacqueel had represented to the Chief Durbar Officers the whole that had happened, and that the reply thereto was that we surely had a right to dismiss such people out of our bounds. It is with regret I mention not having Mr. Watts his Letters to produce, but I appeal to Mr. Manningham, Frankland and Howell to whom I communicated at different times the purport of those letters, whether circumstances to be gathered therefrom were not implying that Rajabullob would be taken into favour again, and advising rather shewing civility to his family than any ways to distress them, giving his opinion that we shou'd be cautious and not let them leave Calcutta. One Letter did imply to give them warning to depart, as the space of time his father had applyed for their residence here, was nigh elaps'd, that was soon contradicted, and I call on Mr. Watts to declare, whether I did not frequently express I was apprehensive that family's residence here wou'd bring the Company's affairs into trouble, and whether I ever shewed any disinclination to their quitting the bounds or submitting to the delivery of them had the Nabob openly required it; further Mr. Watts wrote me he had acquainted the principal men at Muxadavad that I should have no objections to deliver Kissendass, but that he thought I should not consent to the giving up of his Women, nor wou'd that be insisted on. To the blame Mr. Becher is pleased to cast on me for assuming to myself the sole authority of acting without the consent or advice of my council in the protection granted Kissendass and the dismission of the messenger who brought the Perwannah for the immediate delivery of him and his family, I must beg leave to refer in part thereof to my reply to his foregoing accusation against my conduct, wherein it will appear beyond contradiction that I assumed no power of acting by arbitrary will, I could wish the Perwannah had not been refus'ed but in publick Council which sat that very morning, and the Gentlemen were assembled in the Consultation room before Mr. Manningham & Holwell quitted my apartment, and were all well acquainted with the steps we had taken, but not one member of the Board opened his mouth to speak thereon, which was their duty to do, had they then imagined evil consequences would be the attendant on that proceeding, which leads me to remark that no Gentlemen of Council can excuse himself for that silence as I think I shall be supported, in declaring I never attempted to bridle their tongues. I further am led to think that Mr. Becher, who was in Calcutta from the latter end of Feb^{ry} to the beginning of April, though not obliged to attend our Councils when his absence from his chiefship at Dacca on account his own concerns was permitted, might then have set forth his apprehensions that such our Proceedings were wrong, which any slight intimation of, to, or at the Board, would have saved me many an unhappy reflection on what my character has since suffered from after thinking men: What availed it me or either

Messrs Manningham or Holwell whether Rajabullob's Family was or was not to be admitted and kept in our town, but to hold in good correspondence and harmony People who then had great influence at the Durbar, thereby to promote the interest of our employers, and to act according to the Chief of Cossimbuzar his recommendation, who has always been supposed a competent judge how to hold the great men in favour at the Durbar. Even had any letter private or general from Cossimbuzar intimated as far as even an apprehension that the protecting Kissendass would be likely to draw on the Nabob's anger, I dare averr either of those two Gentlemen would have communicated the same in publick Council. I answer I should for my self, and I am sure liberty of speech and writing has too much prevailed in this Settlement not to admitt it from any person who then thought the Company's interest was injured. I should fall into the same error with after conjectures, if I ask why the Gentlemen of Cossimbuzar did not at any time inform us it was a wrong proceeding to continue Rajabullob's Family with us. If they thought so, it was their duty to have set forth the Nabob was irritated thereat, and at the dismission of the Spy; but far otherwise no mention was ever made to us from that Factory of any umbrage the Nabob took on that account, not even the name of any of Raja Bullub's Family appeared in their General Letters. The next accusation Mr. Becher is pleased to alledge against me, though I think it may be deemed rather a general blame on the whole Board, is that I did not use proper means to accomodate matters when I found the Nabob irritated. I would ask Mr. Becher if he has hitherto made an enquiry or from his certain knowledge can give the Board intelligence what methods were pursued to hinder the Nabob's approach & to pacifye his ungovernable passion and premiditated resolution to extirpate the English from his dominions. I shall not therefore immediately enter here a detail of those measures, but think they promised to be the most effectual means those Members present could take and I do conjecture will be now so by them acknowledged, as the appearance and circumstances of every matter then presented itself to us.

5. My not securing on board the Ships the Company's Books, Papers & Treasure, is another allegation laid to my charge by Mr. Becher, I should think Mr. Becher's time in the Company's Service might have learnt him that the different branches of the Company's employ was allotted according as their Servants stood in rank or were appointed by the Board, and could wish he had been present to have shewn a calmness of mind in such our then situation; men are apt to reflect who have not been engaged in the enterprise reflected on, therefore I conclude all such speak to promote their own interest and to be exculpated from errors, that if they had been present they intimate wou'd have altered the scene of action, by such intimation implying faults to other doors that deserve not the least consideration to obviate. I do say that, unless every man in his office appointed attends to what concerns that Office or the orders issued thereto, it is impossible and impracticable during a town is besieged, for a Governour to see that every order is fulfilled, who has his whole thoughts engaged and his time taken up in Military Orders and Operations, not to mention the constant application and addresses from different Quarters, that I am sure will be allow'd afforded me not time to take the rest that simple nature required, whereby my only and great error was committed in leaving the Fort, for which action I hope in turn to moderate men's passions when they give due reflection to our then avow'd situation. I can scarce admitt that an order was minuted to secure the Company's Books and Papers, however such a step I do admitt to have been highly necessary, and that the Accomptant Sub Accomptant and their assistants should have attended and put in execution such order. Why shou'd the whole blame fall on me but with sinister views to deprive me of a station they know not who will inherit; but to which station all are grasping at, and in which I affirm to have acted without any pecuniary advantages but with an attachment to the Company's Interest that I hope they may find in my successors whomsoever my employers may please immediately to appoint if my enemy's assertions bear down matters of facts which I have and shall record before the close of this Letter. That the Treasure was order'd to be ship'd as a certainty, and to the best of my remembrance the whole ballance cou'd not exceed Eighty thousand Rupees, and that

in scattered money receiv'd account Outcrys &^{ca}. not packed. The order let me mention was not passed untill the 18th June after sunset. The Treasury Banyan was not to be found, nor I believe no one see him the whole day, neither could I on inquiry find the Sub Treasurer who was on his duty and Station as Volunteer, the other two Treasurers I believe thought no more of the order, at least they replyed that I should see it put in execution, which would have been performed could I have got Cooleys when I called for them that night. But perplexity, want of sleep and harrassed almost to distraction made me void of mature thoughts. I acknowledged it as a truth otherwise though I was sole Treasurer remaining in the Fort next morning I shou'd have recollected it was my duty to see it shipp'd off and to have remained there untill the place had been in possession of the Moors or a general retreat essay'd the night of the 19th June as had been agreed on at about two in the morning. To justifye my quitting the Garrison I shall not attempt. Contrary thereto I with as much fervency as any one can do blame myself for that inconsiderate action, whereby I acknowledge that charge of Mr. Bechers against me to carry a truth I can in no ways vindicate, but circumstances may alleviate that action and set at nought the many false representations dispurs'd and transmitted to Europe. Fatigued in body by continual harassment for two days and nights without any proper refreshment of sleep, I still kept up and with Mess^{rs} Holwell, Baillie and others went through the Factory in the morning of the 19th June to encourage the several Soldiers and Militia who were there in the Fort resting themselves, to take up their Arms and to go to the relief of those who had not been off duty all night, this I think Mr. Holwell can attest and that I was myself acting in filling bags of Cotton as soon as dawn of day appeared without his or any other persons surmising by any of my actions, words or shew of diffidence then or before that the lott would fall on me to make answer for quitting the Factory (which I solemnly declare never entered my thoughts untill the moment my confus'd ideas hurry'd me off shore). Impatient to know and be an eye witness of every event that might happen I refus'd the solicitation of Mr. Holwell and many others to go to rest (who plainly saw I cou'd scarce support my own weight for want of sleep, nor indeed could I any longer keep active), then about eight in the morning when I took my seat on a Chest below stairs & slumbered for about an hour, when walking to & fro a man astonish'd me, who had charge of the delivery of the powder, by wispering in my ear that the whole that was good was delivered upon the several curtains and bastions. This knowledge caused my first perplexity, however I still kept musing and observing several persons flocking into the passage leading to the back Gate (where no orders given were to be heard through the crowds of Portugeese women and several of our Black Militia who were pressing to get off shore, which many then did, carrying away the boats laying at the Wharf). I went to seek for an Officer and met Lieutenant Talbot to whom I gave orders to have that Gate shutt, but he return'd and told me he did not know in whose possession the keys were. At that time there was a strong rumour that the enemy was attempting to force our Southerly Barrier which would give them possession of the whole part of our Factory, by the Water Side. On which I proceeded with Lieutenant Talbot, and desired he would endeavour to get two Guns manned which were placed to defend the Southerly and Northerly Barrier, but vain were my efforts, for he did not return during the time I staid on shore, which was I believe untill half an hour past ten in the forenoon, when perceiving the Ships and Vessels dropping down the River without orders, and several persons had then quitted the Factory, my imagination suggested it wou'd be impossible to make a general retreat. The method proposed for so doing being frustrated by the desertion of our boats intended for that purpose in case of necessity as had been agreed on, therefore it then appeared to me justifiable and necessary to provide for my own safety, as I then thought my longer stay could be of no service, which I did by going on board of a small Pounsway the only boat then remaining at the Wharf except a large Budgrow which was full of people who made therein there escape.

6. To the Chief & Council's Letter from Dacca, addressed to the Hon'ble Court of Directors, under date the 12th July 1756, I remark that those Gentlemen have signed to a paragraph expressing it is universally believed the protection granted to Kissendass was the cause of all our misfortunes. However

great the censure of that act is supported by the event which happen'd to our Colony, no objection ever appeared in Council to his residence here, and when he was admitted his father then was held in great esteem by Alliverdicawn, and after his death it was matter of great doubt whither the party he espous'd wou'd not get the upper hand of Sourageed Doulet, in which case the dismission of Kissendass was an apparent consequence that the Company's affairs would be embroiled, therefore the detaining him was a medium wherewith we imagin'd to extricate ourselves from trouble, for had he been demanded after Sourageed Doulet had persuaded the Begum of Nowarris Mahweed Cawn to lay aside the opposition she was forming against him in favour of her husband's adopted son, or as I have said before, had we had notice from any quarter after the Nabob was firmly established, that his anger was occasioned by our holding that man from him, we certainly shou'd not have been so daring to dispute his commands in that point. Another part of that letter contradicts Mr. Becher's allegation blaming me for not using proper means to accommodate matters when I found the Nabob was irritated; as I have spoke to that point before, I am only here to notice the contradiction thus set forth, that they can hardly credit my refusing to listen to any terms of accommodation. I am now come to answer those Gentlemen's Letters to the President and Council of Fort S^t^ George, dated the 13^th^ July last, as to those points which carry not veracity, or bear any degree of circumspection, for the least consideration surely would have withheld their speedy resolution to dispatch so suddenly an account of the taking of Fort William which they received from the French, and to averr they see no reason to doubt the authenticity thereof. I cou'd wish I had been able to have obtained a copy of so scandalous a libell as it has been represented, but as it does not appear, I can only answer thereto by repeating the sense of some former words, that it is too full of aspersions to bear being brought to light at this Board, and intended to prejudice most of our characters; to go further they say I tore the Perwannah that was sent to demand Kissendass and threw it in the face of the bearer: I protest I never saw the letter nor the person that brought it, and call on Mr. Holwell, as I could on Mr. Manningham if he was here, to assert that to their certain knowledge I relate truth; If men are thus to be attacked on such slight foundations as hearsay it is difficult, very difficult to wipe off the stain that hidden evil reports convey, such is the addition that concludes there were great riches carry'd off by my self and others. It is a known fact I had not shipp'd or brought with me wherewithall to purchase a meal of rice unless the cloaths on my back or the buckles of my shoes could have served to obtain some small provision. Different was the scene I had experienced, no shift of linen for eight days untill relieved by one of our Pilots, and the deck was my bed, the comins of a hatchway my pillow, my sustenance rice half mixed with paddy, Slain starved animals that hunger reduced me to eat, treble that time with River muddy water for my drink to quench my thirst.

7. The tenour of Mr. Pearks his minute of the 1^st^ Dec^r^ is chiefly answer'd to already, I have this addition to make which supports what I have already said, that every Member of the Board had free liberty of their tongues and Mr. Pearks was the man (though he may think I have a short memory) that extolled the proceeding of turning Narrandass from the Settlement, and told me with that joy he expresses himself when in his opinion any point is rightly executed that we had the praise of every one in the settlement for so doing.

8. I shall now set forth the errors in Mess^rs^ Watts & Collet their Letter to the Court of Directors, under dated the 16^th^ July 1756, and beg your patience for the remarks I shall give thereon. Let it be observed those Gentlemen positively declare I did not receive the Perwannah sent by Narrandass, the manner that was used in turning him out of this place, cannot have the interpretation of disgrace, the Orders given were to the Centinells not to let him into the Factory, and to my Chubdars to see that he departed the bounds which he immediately did convey'ed in the Palankeen he came in and with the parade of his or rather Omichund's Peons before him. Mr. Watts might have added that the intimation of his having been turned away came from me when he sent the Nacquall and wrote to the Durbar Officers thereon if he had recollected I had not been advised from him that such a man had been dispatched by the Nabob. How those Gentlemen can assert so glaring a falsity that Coja Wazeed's Duan

was threaten'd to be ill us'd, is as astonishing as their positiveness, that he was sent to persuade us to pay a sum of money; The errands he came on were to make known the purport of some Letters his Master had received from the Nabob, setting forth his utmost indignation and wrath, to persuade us, his Master wou'd interfere and accommodate matters, if we wou'd give him a sanction, which was readily assented to, at the same time he intimated to us that we should continue to strengthen ourselves with the utmost dispatch, for that the Nabob dismissed those from his presence who had dared to plead in our behalf, which was intimating to us the high influence Coja Wazeed had with Sourageed Doulet, to whom he gave Power to make up matters as he shou'd think best, intimating that he well knew we were incapacitated to pay a sum above three or four Lack of Rupees, though let me here repeat there was no intimation that money was required from us. The Letter Mess^rs^ Watts & Collet wrote us from the opposite side of Hughley came to our hands, but did not imply that the dispute with the Nabob might be finished for a sum of money. Their expression was that they flattered themselves if a proper person was sent from Calcutta, affairs might be compromised, or if we thought proper to send proposals to them; to which we replyed that as we had left it to Coja Wazeed to accommodate matters with the Nabob on our behalf, we were of opinion it was unnecessary to send another person, that it was impossible for us to make any proposals to the Nabob as we were at a loss to know his demands. Let us now consider of how little use those Gentlemen cou'd be towards mitigating our affairs when they were themselves obliged to obtain Coja Wazeed's interest for their releasement.

9. Though the task assigned, or rather every Member of this Board their duty in one respect or other, to be respondents to Mr. Holwell's Letter of the 30th Nov^r^, delivered here to be sent by the first conveyance to the Hon'ble Court of Directors. It has not yet been intimated to me by any one Member that they intended a replication thereto; I am amazed at their taciturnity, whose employments are not in any degree to be spoken off comparatively to the present attention required in my station for the future emolument of my employers, and in such station hourly engaged in giving orders, directions, and listenning to the opinions of every one who has to offer their sentiments on measures to be pursued; nevertheless I had rather be wanting in a respect I owe separate correspondents than not find liesure to make publick answer to such part of Mr. Holwell's Letter, which inmost points I shall reply to I think to have the voice of the Board and of the Settlement, if I call'd on them to affirm I have made true answer.

10. To compleat my promiss'd reply Mr. Holwell's Letter calls my attention, which is to be transmitted by the first conveyance to the Hon'ble Court of Directors. As that Gentleman has touched on some points whereto I have already explain'd myself, it will curtail my repeated remarks on those heads which he so vehemently censures to my prejudice and injury. The acrimony he makes use of against his other superiours in the Service I do suppose will be by those Gentlemen notic'd, I shall only remark whereon that his accusations are confined to them only and not to inferiour Covenanted Servants, therefore I hurry to proceed giving a reply to part of his assertion contained in the 11th and 28th paragraph of his Letter, and am not a little surprized that his memory shou'd not make him recollect an addition which he might with a safe conscience have added thereto, namely that we had no surmize of any disturbance about Kissendass untill after Alliverde Cawn's death. For instance the truth thereof, the first cause of any apprehensions that trouble would ensure on the protection he had obtained was after dismission of Narrandass I think the 15th or 16th of April; how he can then assert, that I shew'd him a Letter from Mr. Watts, setting forth it would be expedient that Raja Bullub's Family shou'd have no longer protection in Calcutta about the time the death of the Old Nabob was deem'd inevitable, must appear an ill told tale, since Narrandass was not sent from Muxadavad untill Sourageed Doulet was seated in the Government, and further if Mr. Holwell was not setting himself up for the standard of truth, in his long recital of affairs he might have covered that reflection on my actions by mentioning he had seen Letters of a latter date cautioning against that family being allowed privately to quit our bounds. I do acknowledge with him that that family having had residence here involved us with difficulties how

to act whether to detain them or wink at their leaving the place. It is my wish to shun any further mention of that family, and therefore the next point I have to answer to carries me to the 9th and 11th Paragraph, the purport of the Perwannah mentioned to have been received from the Nabob is just, what else but ambitious views can make Mr. Holwell conceal that the answer thereto was answer'd in Consultation and forwarded with a Letter signed by the Board including himself to Mr. Watts & Council at Cossimbazar, the translation of which was entered after consultation, and I have it affirmed that our Vacqueel at Cossimbazar declared it to be a very proper answer. I may have forgot the whole purport but to the best of my remembrance it contained as follows :—

> "That for this century past we had traded in his dominions, and had "been protected and encouraged by the several Subahs allways "having paid obedience to their orders, that it give us concern to "observe that some enemys had advised his Excellency without "regard to truth, that we were erecting new fortifications, that we "hoped he would not listen to any false Representations, and that we "depended on his favour to protect our Commerce which tended to "the benefit of his Dominions, that he must have been acquainted "with the great loss our Company sustained by the capture of "Madrass by the French, that there was now an appearance of a "War between our Nations, that therefore we were repairing our "Walls which were in danger of being carried away by the River, and "that we were not otherwise erecting any new Works."

Had Mr. Holwell thought there was any impropriety in that Letter, he shou'd then have set forth his objections thereto, and not arraign a conduct he was present at, and deny its having been a transaction of Council. The Perwannah was received on a Council Day, and he was by me particularly apply'd to, in what manner to answer it, which answer and every other Letter wrote the Nabob in our troubles was by the Secretary translated and entered. In the 23rd Paragraph Mr. Holwell expresses himself as if no limitation had been observed in the granting Dusticks. Had any good will prevailed to his superiours in the Service he might have done me so far justice as to say I had in a great measure curb'd that unlicensed practice, and some in the place can averr I have refus'd application on that head, further that I was warm to remedy and put those checks which were resolved on to prevent the declining abuse of that indulgence. I must acknowledge a fact mention'd in the 30th Paragraph, that Omichund us'd to be the acting person between the Company and the Government, and that his weight in the Settlement and at the Durbar became less for these four or five years past which piqued his pride and was an expence to his pocket, this I own may have urg'd him to attempt making himself again considerable, and with this view I am so fully convinc'd as Mr. Holwell can be that he was a chief operator in bringing down the Nabob's Forces, as thereby he might have expected to gain Sourageed Doulet a handsome sum and have sav'd his own Wealth, wherewith he surely bribed to obtain the favours he received from the Government, and which heretofore will not be improper to say at times were answered by the Company; that is to say he might have boasted to the Durbar Officers that by his management former disputes were accommodated, by which artifice his own pocket was not drained as has been latterly from the presents he has been obliged to bestow to warrant his own security here, & to obtain the sole priviledge of purchasing Opium with other immunities. It must also be recent in our memorys, that on a rumour (which was said he spread himself) of his death, not a twelve Month since, Guards were sent from Muxadavad to secure his Gomastahs and effects at the Aurungs, which we must believe to have been an essay to try the temper of the Government, for no sooner was that report contradicted by himself, than Letters arrived to him from principal men at Muxadavad implying that it was out of their abundant regard that his Gomastahs had been confin'd, who were then ordered to be released; that the Company's trade had not had so great a currency and with so little Durbar charges attending thereon for these five years past must be a truth own'd, nor was I ever given to understand that the lessening Omichund's power was destructive to the Settlement. I have heard he benefitted himself when he had the hidden management of this Colony, and I think it has been intimated he bought at a cheap rate the Company's Raw Silk, which was some years past plundered by the Morattoes; what can be said in favour of a man who offered me Seven thousand Rupees to relinquish my endeavours to bring about the contract for Salt Petre with Coja Wazeed in the year 1754, and of which I immediately acquainted Mr. Holwell, and have since often lamented I did not publickly accuse him, that I order'd his confinement in the Factory is most certain, and shou'd repeat such an authority, with less suspicion of treacherous dealings, than he in my then opinion was carrying on, and which confinement was waranted by the greater number of Council, and I am sure by most of the inhabitants. I will not go so far as to say Mr. Holwell did not at that time approve of the step, but to the best of my remembrance he did not then think it wou'd be attended with any bad consequences, nor at any meeting of the Council afterwards was his releasement intimated, a proof that his innocence was not to be affirmed; though no other reason cou'd be assigned for my suspicion than his correspondence with Rojeram, the Nabob's head Spy and Phousdar of Midnapore. I still think that correspondence was of itself sufficient to keep Omichund within the Factory, further the Letter that was found hidden under a plank in the boat, and which wou'd not have appeared but by the confession of two of the boat's people who were punish'd, other Letters might have been thrown over board, and tho' this obtained did not contain any virulent matter as read by one of Omichund's people in the presence of Messrs Manningham, Frankland, and Holwell, yet there will be allow'd cause to justifye my proceedings when I declare the boat wherein the before mentioned Letter was found had been observed plying to get ashore the day before unobserved, on which intelligence I offered a reward to my people if they could seize her, which even affected, the Mangee & Dandys deny'd having any Letters with them: the receiving no intelligence of the Nabob's motions or his real intent from Omichund, his pretended great favourite, allarmed my thoughts that he was an hidden enemy within our bounds, and who had been allways accustom'd to maintain in his Service armed men; the having despatched Letters to Monick Chund without my knowledge contrary to a publick order, given out forbidding all correspondence of that kind, and that in the dead of night, as Mr. Holwell can attest, whose people impeded them though with some difficulty, was another allarming incident, and which Mr. Holwell might have committed to writing and mentioned, likewise his Omichund's attempt about this time to purchase a quantity of firelocks which the owner prudently refus'd to sell him, also a following circumstance which plainly proved him a dangerous man; what can be said in his vindication when after every inhabitant was desired to send into the Factory, what Military Stores they had in possession, that an entire room in his house was found full of Arms of different kinds, which information I had in writing from Captn Lieutenant Smith.

11. Mr. Holwell inserts a reasoning in his 33rd Paragraph that would have better become him at the time Colonel Scott our Engineer general proposed the plan of erecting a redoubt and drawbridge at Baagbuzar with other works, and which works were then totally approv'd of by the Gentlemen of Council and by the Company, who ordered them to be compleated, which were begun before Colonel Scott's death, and afterwards carry'd on by his Assistants, Messrs Wells & O'Hara untill the finishing the Redoubt & Drawbridge, therefore this, after too late opinion of what shou'd have been more properly done, wou'd have been a motion with great propriety made early last year, if he was then so well instructed in fortifications and had been so well inclin'd to give his advice setting forth the Fortification he now recommends, which probably wou'd have secured us if such operation had been agreed to. The Letters from the Gentlemen of the Secret Committee are never recommended to be made publick, nor are the replys given there to any man his business to enquire after in this Settlement. I do suppose those Gentlemen who had the honour of that correspondence are satisfy'd they did the duty which was of them required by the tenour of those Letters. A short remark I am induced to make on the purport of the 35th Paragraph of the Letter now before me which reflects on many characters, and had Mr. Holwell given his opinion that it was then no time to regard form or ceremonies, he perhaps might not have had occasion to write such bitter sentences, which now cannot avail in any point, but to goad and vex mankind. If he had made an enquiry what ballance of Gun Powder for many years had been

remaining on the Company's Books, he would not have found such a store as we had during the siege, which was seven hundred Maunds, I allow part thereof was damaged and I believe one third of the whole quantity from its age, which cannot in this country be remedied but by preparing it again in the mills. If he wou'd do justice to his superiour, he might well have continued to alledge, I mov'd for the purchase of the Powder Mills built by Colonel Scott, and recommended that Captn Buchanan shou'd have the making of the Gun Powder two months before that purchase was made, and it is generally owned that article manufactured by him was better in quality than Europe Powder brought here. In the 36th Paragraph I find the Muster Rolls are attacked as if I had conniv'd and supported the Captains in making false Musters. This intimation I solemnly declare, whatever advantages the Captains may have made to have been without my knowledge, except those Faggotts which were allowed by Major Mosman in recompence and in lieu of house rent, as we had no Barracks, consequently no lodgings appropriated for the Officers, and those allowances were.

For a Captain 3 Men.
For a Lieutenant 2 Men
For an Ensign 2 men

Mr. Holwell who acted as Captain Fenwick's Attorney while that Gentleman was absent at Bombay and since on his Leave of Absence to England can by that power I suppose ascertain the profits his Company brought in and how they arose; If he had not imagined those profits justifiable, why has he so long cover'd a fraud, that on his first speaking I shou'd not have hesitated to prevent, nor is he right in the number of Military he sets down to have been laid before us on or about the month of June, which were not Muster Rolls, but particularized in a Letter from the Officers, nor has Mr. Holwell taken any notice of the sick to the amount of seventy odd which were then in the hospital and quarters. He does vouch to ascertain the number of Military we were told were at the subordinates to be two hundred men, which is a fact according to the Returns from thence, but if we are deceived by our Commanding Officers there, and deserters from thence, and those who dye are still kept on the Rolls, it cannot be expected I can answer for such a deceit, this I am confident of, that at the last Muster Day before our troubles which was the beginning of May and not as is imply'd in June, the Men then under Arms with those Sick are put down so in the Hospital and their Quarters with the number return'd from the Subordinates, and the allowance of Men granted by Major Mosman amounted to the number whose pay were drawn for, I had almost forgot that there was daily desertion of many of the Portugeese Soldiers and Dutchmen in the Train as soon as our troubles commenced; many Europeans we cou'd not possibly have as for years past we received no recruits, therefore take the number of 215 which appeared under arms the 11 June

70 Sick at the Hospital and their Quarters
200 At the Subordinates according to the Returns
20 Up and Down the River on different occasions

with a moderate number that had deserted. It will be found our employers did not pay for more Effective Men than really there were maintained without my power of contradiction, except an allowance for servants, which the Board to my knowledge never pleaded ignorance of. Mr. Holwell believes there were not five who had ever seen a musket fired with anger. In that supposition I agree with him. We cou'd have but few Europeans and these Deserters from the Dutch Ships, the remainder Country born Portugueese wedded to a place of tranquility. If the Gentlemen he mentions declare they went on board the ship to deposit papers and on their other occasions, I can only say I never heard that was their plea for absence from the Factory, or that they intended coming back, but remembered well, when I arrived on board the *Dodaly*, I was by most of them congratulated with this expression that they were affraid I shou'd have stay'd so long in the Fort to be deprived of the means of coming away. Why the Militia were not train'd I cannot well explain, further than mentioning the second on the spot according to antient establishment was their Commander, and he for reasons best known to himself was backward in promoting the summoning of them, which to be sure was not put in practice untill the 7th

June last. Though really fatigued, with the necessity there is to contradict misrepresentations, I cannot quit the task I have assigned myself, and come to answer the 37th Paragraph which is partly reply'd to already. That there were a number of Shells fill'd is certain, but length of time made them of little or no use through the damp of this climate. Had we been apprized that an attack from the Moors was nigh at hand, we certainly shou'd have prepared for their reception by employing those who had a shallow understanding in Military Works; but a saving system prevented the expence attending Fortifications, and having in store materials we did not think to use and those not properly worked, Guns we had mounted more than could be employ'd and waited for the trucks &ca Colonel Scott indented for to mount the new Cannon. On the death of that Gentleman left us without an experienced Engineer and we expected one to supply his place and put our town and Fort in state of defence against an attack in case of a French War, not apprehending any assault from the Moors.

12. I am sorry I find Mr. Holwell so forgetful as to deny we did not at the commencement of our trouble take possession of Tannah's Fort, which was effected, and most of the Guns then found there were thrown over the walls, and a beginning was made to break down the embrazures, when a party of seven or eight hundred of the Moors Forces appeared, which obliged the small number of men we had on shore to take to boat, after which it was judg'd improper to keep any Military on board the Ships laying there, as it too much divided our strength. The works that were rais'd to annoy the Enemy were nigh as Mr. Holwell sets forth, and I join with him that more usefull steps and operations might have been effected for our better security, if we had had men of experience to point out all necessary measures that shou'd have been pursued in the attack of our Enemy and for the defence of our Fort. Not willing to pass over any misconstruction of orders I am well persuaded no such were given to Mr. Holwell (when he repaired to the Factory in the afternoon of the 18th June) that the Battery Captain Clayton and he commanded it shou'd be immediately withdrawn, as the maintaining that post was by our wise heads judged of the greatest consequence, and we set forth to Mr. Holwell that if it was practicable to maintain it untill night. We imagined from the number of Men slain of the Enemys a terror might seize them, and that they wou'd decamp, at the same time a Detatchment was ordered to support that Battery; but before Mr. Holwell returned, or the reinforcement arrived there, Captain Clayton had spiked up the Guns and beat a retreat, on which a general shout from the Enemy was heard, and I have been told the soldiers expressed themselves much disatisfyed at coming away, and which retreat from the Court House Battery was the cause of orders being sent for our people at the other outposts to come in, a measure then thought to have its utility, whether right or wrong I shall not take upon me to say, let Military Gentlemen judge of those things: I pretend not to have gained any knowledge of that art or of Fortifications while breathing an unwholesome air at Fulta. Let me repeat again an observation I have made before, and which again is imply'd in the 43rd Paragraph of Mr. Holwell's Letter, an attack on his superiours in the service: To expatiate further than I have already done on my having come away will be repetition of what I condemn myself for, and though that act was not becoming the Station I enjoyed yet my longer stay would have been of no service to my employers as I am verily persuaded Capt Grant Mr. O'Hara and myself were some of the last persons who found means to escape from the cruelty of the Moors, and no one will deny that had the Nabob got me in his possession it would not have been in my power to set at nought vain, idle and false representations of our unhappy fate, nor shou'd I have had a fair occasion to convince my employers of my zeal for their service, and to promote their future interest, to which end my thoughts shall be employ'd, and I shall wait their orders to quit a Station I have been plac'd in by Admiral Watson (without any objections being made thereto by any of the Council, Covenanted Servants or Inhabitants). If it seems to them meet by this determination, I may wrong myself, by being absent from an audience in Leaden Hall Street, to answer my accusers, and nothing on my word but having the Company's interest at heart and a sufficient opinion that my Residence here is necessary to forward and obtain a happy issue from our troubles, greater

priviledges than heretofore on a surer foundation, reparation in full for the losses and damages sustained, and a free open Trade, otherwise it wou'd have been my petition to have accompanyed Mr. Holwell, an acquaintance of long standing, who proceeds to make me have a belief, that the consent Mr. Manningham obtained of myself and Council to give directions on what regarded the Marine during the siege, has been converted to another purpose than design'd. The cause of Mr. Manningham's taking that trouble on himself was to ease me from such a multiplicity of application he saw me encumbered with, and as that order to the Commanders of Shipping was dated in Fort William, it cannot I think be construed in any other sense than hat his, Mr. Manningham's directions and orders were to be obey'd from that place, nor can any man of sense imply it gave Mr. Manningham power to act out of Fort William, whatever arguments the Captain of the *Dodaly* may make use of. Be the motives what they will that urges Mr. Holwell to blame our stay at Fulta, he is singular in his opinion that we shou'd have immediately proceeded to Madrass, an advice I never heard propos'd untill the middle of September by Major Killpatrick, who was not then seconded by any Member of the Board except Mr. Watts. Our arrival at Fulta was not untill July, too soon to proceed directly out of the River without a week's provision of any kind, not a market open to supply ourselves, and what small quantitys we did get for a month afterwards was brought to us by night. This time elapsed made us well conclude of receiving soon succours, which wou'd have arrived according to our expectations, if as I am told Admiral Watson his proposal had been accepted, and we had been in possession of our Colony, so early as to have transmitted advice thereof that would have reach'd England as soon as the disconnected news of the Capture of Calcutta, when we should also have had the advantage of time to conclude terms with the Government that would in all probability now have been finished. If such assistance the Admiral offer'd join'd with the Military, His Majesty's Ships, and the Indiamen, could have brought down, had succeeded in their undertakings, which no man will have the boldness to say otherwise, that early re-possession of our Settlement would probably have enabled us to have secured a tolerable good investment for the Ships now laying here, which great advantage and many other material points I could fix on would have been accomplished had the Gentlemen of Madrass more nicely studied or had it in their capacity to judge of the Company's interest, they have so apparently neglected, by not concurring with the early sentiments of Mr. Watson, which had the proposal taken effect, and we had quitted the River and proceeded to Madrass at a time of year the tract there cannot admitt of speaking with Vessells bound from thence, the disappointment of the Ships not finding Sloops in the Road or Pylots to bring them in the River is too evident to need explanation. Information of the motion of the Nabob and what Enemys he had to deal with was also very necessary to learn, with other particulars I shall not here enumerate. I admitt that our continuance at Fulta has been an expence the greatest part of which on inspection of the Accompts could not have been sav'd, though we had for the benefit of our constitutions proceeded to the Coromandel Coast. A step in that respect and no other would in my judgment serv'd private people who had an averseness to publick good or the community in general.

13. I demand to what end Mr. Holwell his sophistry all consists, but to have a vote of approbation, and supplant his Seniors in the service; For my own part by my publick advertisement it will I hope appear to every man of reasoning I sought not for or coveted a station I should if the publick voice had required resigned in favour of a Gentleman, that not only the Company's Servants but the voice of the inhabitants had proclaim'd a more fit person to manage the approached scene, which I doubt not will tend to the emolument of the India Company, and that what is past will prove to have been a necessary measure to awaken us and them from a supineness and lethargy. Could Mr. Holwell true answer make, and bring Evidence to his assertions, he would be intitled to all favour. From whom he had the intelligence that no means were used to send succours to the Factory after I arrived on board Ship he does not mention, I protest all methods were pursued to persuade the return of such boats we had in call. I averr that Captain Nicholson of the *Hunter* Schooner was the only man that could be persuaded to return with that small

Vessell to the Factory, his obedience was of no use, for no sooner did he reach the Southermost Part of the Town, than his people jumped over board, and he was under a necessity to put back. Inhumanity was never before Mr. Holwell's declaration an apothet attending my character. It is well known I have been too good to those who merited not kindness and that my compassion was great for the sufferings those unhappy men underwent who had not the means left to escape from a cruel Enemy. I firmly deny any expression of mine that could be interpreted that there was a general retreat, the most I said was that I did imagine those wou'd follow who could get off shore, and notwithstanding the positiveness assumed by Mr. Holwell to the veracity of what he has set forth, I am an entire stranger to any one person having had a design to return back whom I found on board the *Dodaly*. This my assertion let it be deem'd a truth, and that I have not waver'd from that principle knowingly or wilfully in the course of this Letter or in the Narrative I present with it, both intended for the perusal of my Employers, not covering my own faults which if egregious, they have it in their power to vacate my seat in favour of any one they may esteem more worthy, and who has their interest deeper rooted in heart than him who is without guile but with future circumspection.

GENTLEMEN,

Your most Obedient Servant,

ROGER DRAKE, JUN^{R}.

CALCUTTA,

17th to 25th Jan^{ry} 1757.

To The Hon'ble Roger Drake Junior Esq., President & Governour &c. Council of Fort William.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,—

As I am still of opinion the protection granted to Kissendass and the insult to the Nabob's Messenger were essential cause of our late misfortunes & very imprudent & unwarrantable actions notwithstanding what Mr. Holwell has wrote on that subject, I must beg leave thro' your channell to convey my reasons for the said opinion to our Hon'ble Employers. The first, admitting Kissendass & his wealth into Calcutta I look on as a very wrong step. Mr. Watt's Letter even supposing it to have been worded as in Mr Holwell's address was not in my opinion reason sufficient. Could it ever be imagined the Government would permit the English to protect or screen from justice a man who had been in so considerable a post as Naib or Deputy to the Nabob of Dacca. Surely the Nabob has a right to call his subjects to an account without our interfering, & how the Company's interest was anyway concerned I can't find out; as to his influence at Dacca, I am to observe, that at the time Mr. Watts wrote his Letter, Raja Bullub's Family were entirely out of the Government of Dacca, & that while they had the management they were very oppressive to the Company & their Servants. So that I am sure the Company owed them no obligation on account of their behaviour at Dacca, nor do I believe it to have been in their power at the time Kissendass was received in Calcutta to have been of any materiall prejudice to the Company's Affairs at that Factory. I must also differ in opinion with Mr. Holwell as to the probability of the Begum's party getting the better of Sur Raja Doula, that there was never much likelihood of it I am convinced, & remember when Mess^{rs} Jenks, Reveley & Law came from Cossimbuzar in March last, they did not seem to make the least doubt, but that Sur Raja Doula would succeed to the Subaship with little or no difficulty, & this was the general opinion as far as come to my knowledge, & indeed I do not believe the Begum had even above 3 or 4,000 Men in her party or pay, & amongst them very few or none of consequence, those shut up in an unfortifyed place, while Sur Raja Doula had in his command in the city at least 30,000 men. So that it does not appear to have been essential to the Company's Interest to gain the friendship of Raja

Bullub & the Begum's party at the great risque of the Suba's displeasure. I think it would have been more in character if those Gentlemen had declined interfering in either party, with which neither could in reason have been offended, & they would have followed the constant practice of the President & Councill of Bengall who have allways prudently thought it their bussiness to carry on the Company's affairs & remain neuter in any disputes in the Government, this they certainly ought to have done, & I own Mr. Holwell's reasons for acting otherwise are no way convincing to me, nor do I think will to any impartiall person. One wrong step being taken naturally occasions others, Kissendass not being sent out of Calcutta, the receipt of Mr. Watts' Letter advising the necessity of his dismission appears very extraordinary, but as I am a stranger to the reason assigned for it, I can say nothing further on the subject than that it appears to me to have been highly necessary to have complied with what Mr. Watts recommended & would have been a step towards returning the error before committed. I must now beg leave to make some remarks on the insult offered to the Nabob's messenger, Rajaram's brother, a man as Mr. Holwell justly observed in much trust & confidence both with the late & present Suba. I own myself greatly at a loss to find any reason for his coming into Calcutta in disguise, he was sent by the Nabob in a publick character to demand the person & wealth of Kissendass which the English unjustly detained from him, an errand he had no reason to be ashamed of, nor do I imagine he looked on the English in so formidable a light as to prevent his coming openly to make his demand. I am therefore firmly of opinion that he did not enter Calcutta in disguise & Mr. Holwell's own account of the affair convinces me he did not. That Omichund might come to Mr. Holwell as he represents, & tell him that Narran Sing came into the place in a christian dress, I do not doubt, & think it easily accounted for. Omichund had I believe been instrumentall in getting admission for Kissendass & his Family into Calcutta & was very sensible the errand Narransing came upon would be disagreeable received, he therefore in dread of the Gentlemen's resentment (some of whom he knew were not his friends) might pretend Narransing came in disguise in order if possible to clear him-self from any knowledge of his coming. The representation of the Chokey Zemindar to Mr. Holwell the next morning that one of Omichund's Servants came to him & desired him to let Narransing pass as one of his relations confirms me in my opinion, tho' I must own the difference of the pretended disguise is not so easily reconciled, there cant well be a greater distinction in dress, than between a Christian & a Bengall picar. Mr. Holwell has not mentioned which of the disguises he gave credit to, for my own part I believe the whole to have been a story rais'd by Omichund, but even if he did come in disguise as Mr. Holwell received him that same evening & was acquainted he had a perwannah from the Nabob to demand Kissendass & his wealth. I think the step taken the next morning was very wrong and likely to involve the Companies affairs, it being an affront that it could not be expected any Prince would put up with from a sett of merchants, & I think it will appear before I conclude this Letter that the protection of Kissendass & the insult of the messenger were principall causes of our misfortunes; but here I can't help expressing my astonishment to find that the Councill were never consulted on either of the above actions tho' of such great consequence, but that Mess^rs^ Drake, Manningham, & Holwell assumed to themselves the power of acting as above, tho' they had no proper authority delegated to them either by the Court of Directors or the Councill here that I ever heard of. Mr. Holwell has certainly taken much pains to make out that the protection of Kissendass and insulting the messenger were not in any shape causes of our late misfortune, but he must excuse me if I think otherwise, & in proof of my opinion I beg leave to refer to the Nabob's Letter to Mr. Pigott, in which he declares his intention was not to drive the English out of his country, but that Mr. Drake behaved ill in protecting his subjects from him, therefore he was obliged to punish him, and in the Muchulka he got Mr. Watts to sign at Cossimbuzar his first demand was that the English should not protect his subjects. Monickchund and Jaggerseat in their Letters to Major Killpatrick assert that the Nabob's anger against the English began on their protecting his subjects, and for my own part I declare every Native I conversed with told me the same, and I see no reason by any of the

Nabob's actions to think otherwise; his constant demand that we should demolish our Fortifications probably proceeded from the same cause for if we demolish our Fortifications he might reasonably think it would disenable us from protecting his subjects in future. I can't help taking notice of that part of Mr. Holwell's address where he says that on a proper representation of the Chief of Cossimbuzar at the Durbar the affair of the messenger hardly made any emotion. If I am rightly informed the insult of the messenger was never represented to the Nabob till he reached Rajamahall, owing I believe to the interest made by Mr. Watts with Golam Hussein Cawn and others, but that when the Nabob received Mr. Drake's Letter and appeared greatly incensed, Rajaram's brother took that opportunity of acquainting him how he had been used in Calcutta, upon which the Nabob immediately gave orders to march his Army back, & swore he would drive the English out of Bengall, & in all likelihood this was the time he wrote the Letters to Coja Wazeed which Mr. Holwell supposes the Governour to have in his possession. That he must have been greatly incensed some how or other is certain, he had proceeded as far as Rajamul against the Purnea Nabob, who he must have looked on as a competitor for his Subadarry, & yet he waved his resentment against him and marched back directly to attack the English, this does not appear like a premeditated design but rather a sudden gust of passion. What prevented you Gentlemen from using proper means to molify him while on his march I do not know, unless it proceeded from severall of you being unacquainted with the provocation given, so that you might be at a loss what to judge of the Nabob's actions and those few who had been concerned in it took great caution to prevent its being made publick from a conviction I presume that they had acted wrong, else I can't any way account why the affair of Kissendass and the Messenger were never laid before the Councill, as it certainly would have enabled them to form a better judgment of the Nabob's actions, that money would have satisfyed him I am persuaded. It is the custom with the Government there to make exorbitant demands, but it is very seldom the money will not accommodate matters, the Nabob certainly was greatly irritated, but still I thinke he might have been pacify'd by a few lacks of Rupees, besides his Ministers are all venall, & I do not doubt but they might have been bought over to our interest and probably have stopt the Nabob's resentment, but this is a step which I believe never was attempted, but instead of it I am informed you talked big & even refused the mediation of Coja Wazeed when offered. I have heard it alleged that money could not be paid as being contrary to the Company's positive orders. I must beg leave to assert the contrary, to the best of my remembrance the last orders from the Court of Directors on that subject, are in answer to the payment of near 200,000 after our bussiness had been stopt six months. If I am not mistaken the Court approved of that payment, as there appeared an absolute necessity for it, and only gave a caution against complying with the Nabob's exactions while it could be avoided. Surely if ever there was an absolute necessity it was on the late occasion, the Goverment had never before gone greater lengths than stopping business and putting some forces on our subordinate Factories, but here Cossimbuzar was taken, our Gentlemen made prisoners, & the Nabob's army marching to Calcutta, & yet no step taken to prevent his vengeance, tho' Calcutta was in a defenceless situation having neither men or ammunition to resist a powerfull Army, besides the subordinate Factories and daily apprehension of a French War ought to have had great weight with you Gentlemen in promoting an accommodation if possible, but they seem to have been below your notice. Certainly reason would have dictated as the most eligible method to have given way to the times, tried submission or payment of money, after which it would have been very proper to have wrote to the Admirall & Presidencies for assistance, & when you had Force sufficient, laid hold on a favourable opportunity to demand restitution of the money extorted from you, and some security not to be used so in future; how much more eligible this would have been than the fighting system I think will appear to every reasonable man who considers the state of Fort William, the Town of Calcutta, &ca, I shall therefore say no more. I can say no more on that subject. I think what I have already mentioned will make it appear that the English had given Sur Raja Doula sufficient provocation to make him their Enemy without any need of his Grand Father's advice. Mr. Holwell will excuse me if I do not admitt Alliverde Cawn's speech as genuine till better proofs are brought to support it than any I have yet seen, such advice if really given it is reasonable to imagine had few or no witnesses, so that it appears very improbable Mr. Holwell in his distressed situation at Muxadavad should have been able to unravell the mysterries of the Cabinet & explore a secret never yet known to any one but himself. I can't agree with Mr. Holwell that Sur Raja Doula's actions were entirely consistent with the advice said to be given him by his Grand Father that appears to me to warn him to be on his guard against the French as well as us, they have had their share in the troubles on the Coast so that their Fortifications ought not to have been permitted them any more than ours, & never could the Suba have a better opportunity of reducing them to his own terms than just after he had conquered the English, when he surrounded them with his victorious Army, & they were even in a worse situation for defence than Fort William. It is true the demand was for them to levell their Fortifications, but on a proper representation & agreeing to pay 3 Lacks or 3½, the whole dispute was accommodated in 48 hours, this I think never would have happened had he had a design to reduce the three European Nations to the same footing as Armenians & other Merchants, for I will venture to assert that he might in three or four days have been in possession of both French & Dutch Factories. So that I can't see how it would have interfered with his intended expedition against the Purnea Nabob, as I think he did not set out on that expedition till October, which I believe was the soonest it was possible for him to undertake it. During the Rainy season the country is so overflowed & the Rivers increased that it would have been scarce possible to have cross'd an Army to the Purnea country, this the Nabob must have been sensible of when he marched back from Rajamahall; but it appears he was so angry with the English that he chose rather to abandon his own interest than not to shew his immediate resentment. I beg leave to assure you Gentlemen that I have to the best of my knowledge asserted nothing but as it really happened, but if I have inadvertently committed any errors I shall be very ready to acknowledge & correct them as soon as they are pointed out; my only design is to acquaint our Hon'ble Employers with what appears to me to have been essentiall causes of our misfortunes & such actions as can never be justifyed, I submit the whole to their consideration & with Respect.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,

CALCUTTA, Your most Ob^dt Humble Serv^t.

The 25th January 1757. RICH^D BECHER.

To—The Hon'ble the Court of Directors for the Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,—

In my Letters from Fulta of August the 15th & September the 19th, 1756, I endeavoured to represent to you in few words as possible the cruel situation your affairs were then in, in this part of India. I have now the pleasure to congratulate your Honours on the agreeable change which has since happened and on the prospect there now is of soon seeing every thing re-settled.

I will refer your Honours to Colonel Clive for returns and Particulars in all your Military Affairs as he has here now the Chief Command and has undertaken to inform you of every thing.

What was done since I last had the honour of writing to you, and before the arrival of the Squadron, was little more than in keeping up a correspondence with some principal people in the Country; which answered almost all our intentions in gaining of time & having provisions supplyed to us while we were obliged to remain inactive, but of this with the particulars of all our transactions you will have an exact account in the General Letters. Your Honours are to be the sole judges of our conduct, and I am hopeful you won't find that we have acted amiss. One thing which I am sure of is that many of your Servants here seem to have your interest truely at heart, and would do to the utmost of their power to promote it. I can answer for myself at least, as I am persuaded that no man in this way could go further; and I am also well convinced so far as I am able to judge from what I have yet seen that there are others and in particular your Hon'ble President here who is perfectly attached to your interest.

I received the Commission you were pleased to honour one with as a very great mark of your favour & esteem, and shall do every thing in my power to make you ever think that you have not bestowed it unworthily, tho' I must own it gives me some concern to observe that you should have thought proper so much more to have lessened my allowances than what you had ever done to any former Major in Bengal, so that you have left me little more than barely my Major's pay which is but five shillings a day more than that of a private Captain, tho' I have to support the rank of third in Council and Commander of the Bengal Troops.

I am not greatly interested nor desirous of extraordinary allowances particularly at a time like this; but what has been given to others in the same station before me I think in some measure is but my right and due as I hope you will never find that I have done or will do less for your service than any whom you have formerly employed; and I can assure Your Honours that the £250 which I still hope you will order to be payd me, is not any extraordinary sum for one who would support as he ought the character of the station in which you have placed me, for you must be very sensible that it is entirely out of my way to do anything on Trade or to enjoy any post which might bring me any other advantages, as all the Civil Councellors can. So that I hope your Honours will be pleased to consider of this as also of the request which I made to you in my last concerning getting me a Brevet from His Majesty; which may likewise prove for the benefit of your Service, if you can think that from my experience in the Country & my attachment to your interest, I might some time or other be of more use to you in having the Command, than one of equal rank in His Majesty's Service without those advantages.

I have suffered greatly in my health since I last had the honour of addressing you by fatigues & bad accommodation, which has affected my Wounds so much that the Doctors have strongly advised my going home. However while I am at all able I am resolved not to leave the Country at a time like this, tho' I thought it necessary to let Your honours know so much, least I should be obliged to quit before even I can be honoured with an answer to this; which I will certainly wait for if my health will permit, having the honour to be with the greatest respect & sincerest attachment.

May it please Your Honours,
Yours Honours most Obd^{t}
& most humble Servant,
JAMES KILLPATRICK.

CAMP NEAR FORT WILLIAM,
25th January 1757.

P. S.—Tho' I mentioned to your Honours in the above that Colonel Clive would send you general Returns of the whole, yet I think it my duty also to send particular Returns of the Bengal Troops; which I here now have the honour to inclose you being as above.

J. K.

Duplicate.

To—The Hon'ble the Secret Committee for Affairs of the Hon. United Comp^{y} of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

HON'BLE SIRS,—

1. Copy of our Letter transmitted under cover to the Presid^{t} & C^{o} of Fort S^{t} George to be forwarded *viâ* Bussorah is enclosed. We shall in this

address give you a summary acc^{t} of our Proceedings since our appointment by the *Walpole's* Packet.

2. By that Ship We rec^{d} a Letter from the Select Committee of Fort S^{t} George importing the following particulars, that His Majesty's Squadron & the Comp$^{y's}$ Ships *Marlbro'* & *Walpole* were then upon the point of sailing for Ballasore Road. That they had embark'd on them 528 Military all Officers included, 109 of the Train & 940 Seepoys under the Command of Robert Clive, Esq^{r}. That they had sent 4,00,000 Rupees on the above Ships for the expences of the Expedition consign'd to Col. Clive. That they had directed him to apply to us for plans of a Treaty to be made with the Nabob and of Military Operations; but had empowered him to deviate from the whole or part of such Plans if he thought them inconsistent with the Company's Interest. And that they had directed him in case they should recall him to return with his Troops leaving as many as he may judge sufficient for the defence of Calcutta.

3. The *Protector* & *Lapwing* brought us another supply of Seepoys.

4. Upon the arrival of Admiral Watson & Col. Clive We judg'd it proper & necessary to give them an invitation to our Committee. And accordingly our Consultations while at Fulta were always held on Board the *Kent*, particular regard being paid to Mr. Watson's advice, whose attachment to the Comp$^{a's}$ interest we have since experienced.

5. Esteeming it necessary previously to request of Mr. Watson the assistance of his Squadron to retake Fort William & oblige the Suba to make us reparation for our Losses & Injuries, We did so on the 16th Dec^{r}, and rec'd a handsome assurance of the Admiral of doing all in his power for the Company's benefit; as far as was consistent with the safety of His Majesty's Ships.

6. A Letter was then wrote to the Nabob from the Admiral implying his design of coming here to re-establish the Company & procure restitution of their losses, which it was hoped the Nabob would be inclinable to grant. This Letter was wrote with intention to amuse him, & prevent his re-inforcing the garrison at Calcutta during the delay of the Squadron at Fulta account of the Spring Tides. Hitherto no answer has been rec'd to that Letter tho' We are assured it was delivered.

7. The time of moving from Fulta with the success of the Squadron have already been mentioned, as well as the publication of our Manisfests & Declaration of War. Upon our request Admiral Watson has likewise declared War against the Suba on His Majesty's Part.

8. One of the first steps We took after our return was to write to the Zemindars of the neighbouring pergunnahs to pay the rents & revenues of their respective Districts into our Treasury, on pain of having their Country destroy'd in case of refusal. Several of them have sent their Vackells & promised obedience to our orders, by this means We have hopes of easing the Company considerably in the charges of the Operations it may be expedient to carry on against the Suba.

9. The capture & destruction of Hughly was esteem'd so essential to strike a terror in the Suba's Troops & encourage any malcontents to declare in our favour, That the *Bridgwater* & *King's Fisher* with a considerable detatchment of Land Forces were sent up that Expedition, which has been executed with the loss of but few men of our side, but it is reported that a great number of the Enemy have been slain. The Fort was blown up by Major Killpatrick & the Town, Gunge, &^{ca}, burnt to ashes. This We have reason to believe has had the desir'd effect & thrown the Country into a vast consternation. We have withdrawn our Troops, I have encamp'd our Military Seapoys &^{c}. upon a Plain near Dumdumma.

10. Our Intelligence from all Quarters agreeing that the Nabob is on his march this way with a large army. We have wrote the Select Committee at Bombay & Fort S^{t} George & enforc'd the necessity of supplying us with Troops to compleat our re-establishment & procure reparation for our Losses, Damages, & Charges.

11. The French settled at Chandernagore having made proposals to Admiral Watson for a neutrality within the Ganges which the Admiral had not accepted. We thought it our duty (upon receiving private advice from Mr. Boddam of His Majesty's Declaration of War) to represent the benefit a Treaty of Neutrality would be of to the Company & Community by taking away any pretence for a junction of that Nation with the Nabob: a junction which would prove very detrimental to our measures if permitted to take place. Mr. Watson was accordingly address'd to upon that subject. A few days after the Admiral made us the three following Propositions regarding the French settled here and requested our sentiments, which of the three would be the most eligible for the interest of the Company in our present circumstances. The first was "For a simple Treaty of Neutrality with the French within the "Ganges & if so, when to be concluded, whether now, or some time before "his Departure. The second for a Treaty of Neutrality joined with a League "offensive & defensive against the Suba if it could be effected, if not a defen-"sive League only." The last for acting against the French openly by Sea & Land & using our whole Force to exterminate them totally out these Provinces.

12. These propositions were duly weighed by us & the result of our deliberation was, That a Treaty of Simple Neutrality with the French within the Ganges to continue during the course of the present war subsisting between the Crown of Great Britain & France, war to be prefered to the other two Propositions, & that the sooner such a Treaty was concluded the better. This opinion we transmitted in writing to the Admiral.

13. Our reasons for this opinion were chiefly these, By concluding such a Treaty of Neutrality, we prevented their assisting the Suba in any shape against us; secured our own Settlement (at present but ill prepared to withstand an European Enemy) from any apprehensions of it's being attack'd by them, and were thereby left at liberty to prosecute the war against the Nabob with more vigour. It will likewise give the Settlement an opportunity of recovering it's Trade should we be able shortly to put an end to the troubles.

14. By a letter of the 13th Nov^{r} from the Select Committee at Fort S^{t} George we expect to be re-inforc'd from Bombay with 500 Men. Upon the arrival of their troops & those embarked on the *Cumberland*, we hope to be enabled to act in the Field, & if successful in one decisive Battle to end these troubles upon terms both honorable & advantageous to the Company in a short time. That the Nabob is uneasy & apprehensive of the consequences of the war he has brought upon himself, we have good reason to believe from a Letter of Coja Wazeed's to Col. Clive, & the mediation they have desired the French to undertake in order to accommodate matters. The Dem^{d} we verbally made the French deputies were in substance: To have restitution for our losses and satisfaction for the damages & charges sustain'd in consequence of the Suba's violences, To have permission to erect such Fortifications as we might think proper in whatever part of the Country we chuse to settle a Factory, and to be allow'd a Mint in Calcutta. These demands were forwarded by the French to Coja Wazeed by whose answer there is great room to imagine there will be little difficulty made to any of the articles except the Mint; and we flatter ourselves that we shall not only compel the Nabob to make restitution & reparation for the private & publick losses sustained by the Europeans, but likewise enact a more punctual obedience to the tenour of our Phirmaund, & claim such an increase of our Revenues, & such Immunities for our Commerce as to render this Settlement more beneficial to the Company than it has been since it's first establishment.

15. To preserve such an acquisition of Priviledges & Indulgences as we may be enabled to make the Suba consent to, & to secure for Trade in these Dominions, it will be essentially necessary to erect a strong Fortification & maintain a respectable Military Force, a proportion of which charge may be borne by the Inhabitants. For this purpose it will be proper to assess every Black Merchant or Resident within our bounds according to his abilities for the support & expence of a body of Troops consisting of Europeans &

Seepoys; and to raise the Ground Rent of such Houses as are situated within the Fortifications for the disbursement of that charge. Both of these methods we imagine will be readily assented to by the Europeans & Natives, will enable the Company to keep the Government within bounds at an easy expence, & put an end to the continual extortions & venal practices of the Darbar. Terms so beneficial & desirable we doubt not will be highly satisfactory. We must therefore recommend it to you Hon'ble Sirs to send us out an able Engineer to plan a strong & regular Fortification, & give us permission to execute that plan immediately. We must likewise repeat that it will be proper to keep up a large Military Force, & request you will send us out by the first opportunity a considerable body of disciplin'd Troops if possible, with positive orders to the Gentlemen at Madrass not to detain them upon that Coast on any account whatever.

16. Military Stores of all kinds will be wanted with good Artillery Officers, which Company is now under the command of Major Killpatrick.

17. As it would be imprudent to risque a second capture of the Settlement in case we should be unsuccessfull in the Field, we are making the present Fort as defensible as we can by digging a Ditch 30 feet wide round the Walls, levelling the houses within paces round, & throwing up a Glacis with the dirt of the ditch & the rubbish of the houses. These Works will amount to a trifle, & will we imagine secure us from further attempts of the Government. We purpose likewise to detain the *Protector* in the River, & have wrote to Mr. Bourchier & his C^o for another Ship of Force to remain here till we are better settled. We have likewise ordered 20,000 Mds. of rice & provisions of all kinds to be laid in by the Buxey.

18. The quick arrival of the Troops from Bombay & those on the *Cumberland* may be of such importance to our affairs, that we have dispatch'd Boats and small Craft to Ingellie to bring them up immediately on their importing.

19. Having recited a detail of our transactions we are next to request your permission to make some observations on the extraordinary conduct of the Select Committee at Fort S^t George in the course of the Expedition they have set on foot to recover your Possessions, Estates, Rights & Priviledges in Bengall. Those Gentlemen have authorised & empowered Col. Clive to act as Commander-in-Chief of the Land Forces to be employed on this Expedition. They have given him an independant power to pursue such Plans of Military Operations & to make such Treaties of Peace as he may think fit in case he differs in his opinion from us. They have consign'd singly to him a sum of Rs. 400,000 with all the Military Stores; have enjoin'd him to return upon being recall'd with his Troops, leaving only as many behind as he may judge sufficient for the defence of Calcutta, & have appointed a Pay Master & Commissary of the Troops.

20. The authority they have assumed of appointing Col. Clive Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in Bengall (notwithstanding they acknowledge us as the Gov. & Co here & in direct opposition to the tenour of the Commission we have rec'd this Season) is so unwarrantable that we cannot avoid taking notice of it, as an encroachment upon the Rights & Trust invested in us by our Employers.

21. Their motive for empowering Col. Clive to execute whatever Plans of Military Operations he may judge most efficacious, to compel the Suba to terms, & to conclude such Treaties as he may think most for the Company's Interest, is so extremely weak & insufficient that we have been obliged to require of Col. Clive, to comply with & follow all Orders he may receive from this Committee respecting any Plans of Military Operations, & on no acc^t to conclude any Treaty of Peace or Accommodation without our assent and approbation. We doubt not, Hon'ble Sirs you will concur with us in thinking it strange that a greater confidence should be put in a single person (totally unacquainting with the nature of the Country & Government), for prosecuting & finishing these disputes than in us, the Gov. & C^o established here by the Hon'ble Company. As we are of opinion this proceeding of your Servants at Madrass may prove a prejudice rather than benefit to the Company's affairs should

Col. Clive deviate from our directions, we have protested against any miscarriages that may happen by lodging such an extravagant power in the Colonel.

22. Consigning so large a sum of Money as 4,00,000 Rs. & all the Military Stores singly to Col. Clive without subjecting his, the Pay Master's or Commissary Acc^ts^ to any inspection or controul of our Board, is a latitude the Company have not even conferr'd upon their Gov. & C° at this place. Whether they are warranted for such an extraordinary step or not, you are the best judges Hon'ble Sirs, We can only say, it is a treatment very unhandsome & diffident, and what we are not conscious of having merited from those Gentlemen.

23. Their Orders to Col. Clive to return with his Troops in case of being recall'd and submitting to his judgment what number of men may be necessary for our defence, is likewise partial and void of regard to the Company's interest. How important a re-establishment in these Provinces must be to our Employers they cannot be ignorant; to leave that unfinished, to Forego the hopes of obtaining reparation for Your heavy losses and satisfaction for the charges incurr'd on this occasion, merely because the French may attack their possessions on that Coast, is in our opinion far *from* consistent with the true interest of the Company. We must also remark that though they have been pleas'd to give Col. Clive these directions, the number of Troops sent under his Command with those which arrived with Major Killpatrick do not exceed if equal, the number of Recruits designed for this Presidency & detained on their Coast.

24. We have requir'd of Col. Clive to recede from the Independant Power given him by the Select Committee at Fort S^t^ George, & subject himself to the Orders of this Presidency; but he has refus'd to surrender that authority. We must leave it to you, Hon'ble Sirs, to take proper notice of so injurious a conduct in your Servants on the Coast.

25. Since writing thus far the Admiral has received an answer from the Nabob to his Letter & has wrote another to desire he would listen to the proposals he would receive from us.

26. Mr. Holwell, who is one of our Committee, being on his departure for England on this Sloop by reason of his health, we have given the care of these advices to his charge, and are with the greatest Respect.

HON'BLE SIRS,

FORT WILLIAM,

Your most faithfull and

The 26th Jany. 1757.

most Obd^t^ h'ble Servants,

ROGER DRAKE, *Junr.*

RICH^D^ BECHER.

To—The Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Com^y.^ of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,—

1. Mr. Holwell in his address to Your Honours having in many parts of his Letter arraigned my conduct, self defence obliges me to reply to the several particulars, and to point out where he has been mistaken.

2. In the 4^th^ Paragraph of his letter he relates a very plausible story of Rajabullub's being seized on his Master Newangees Mahmud Cawn's death & during the life of Allverdi Cawn and was by Surajud Doulet imprisoned, who by severe methods endeavoured to force a confession and discovery of Newangees Mahmud Cawn's riches, and then launches out into a panegyrick on the faithfullness of Rajabullub to his deceased Master; where Mr. Holwell picked up this piece of intelligence I am at a loss to know, for neither I or he believe

any of the Gentlemen of Cossimbuzar ever heard of his being imprisoned till after the old Nabob's Death; on the contrary Rajabullub was daily employed in giving an account of Newangees Mahmud Cawn's riches to the old Nabob, and never received any check till about a few days before he died, when on the information of Surajud Doulet of Newangees Mahmud Cawn's Begum or Wifes raising forces for us, he was sent for and spoke to severely; on which he returned to his Mistress at Mootee Jheel, where she was raising forces as much to preserve the life of her Gallant Meir, Nusserally, as her riches which she expected will be seized on her Father's death. Mr. Holwell then proceeds and argues extremely well for Rajabullub, after which he ventures to assert upon memory alone what I can with the same or more certainty affirm I never wrote, what I wrote I can venture to say was only to the following purport, *viz.*, to Mr. Manningham."

> "That Rajabullub's son's Wife was taken ill on her way to Jaggernaut,
> "therefore Rajabullub desired she might be admitted into Calcutta
> "for a month till she was brought to bed as she was ready to lie
> "in. I had complied with his intercession to write to the Governour
> "as Rajabullub had been usefull to us and might be more so."

What I wrote to the Governour was enclosed under a flying Seal to Mr. Manningham, and was to the same purport, only the article of her being ready to lie in was omitted, but I in the most solemn manner declare that I never wrote to supply her with boats, neither did I know till about the time of the old Suba's death that ever Rajabullub's Son or wealth were admitted into Calcutta. If I had been acquainted with that I should have been immediately alarmed, and the moment I suspected any ill consequences might attend the Governour's keeping Rajabullub's Son or wealth in Calcutta, I did as Mr. Holwell mentions desire the Governour to turn them out of the place. I never heard from the more understanding people about the Durbar, that Newangees Mahmud Cawn's Begum would ever get the better, and the Gentlemen of Cossimbuzar were under so little apprehensions of any alteration in the Government by her means, that I do not remember we ever mentioned the affair to Calcutta; therefore I cannot conceive from what quarter Mr. Holwell could get this intelligence.

3. With regard to Mr. Holwell's 5th Paragraph of his Letter I acknowledge to have wrote to the purport he mentions, but what salutary end it could answer affronting so considerable a person as Narrain Sing after knowing and receiving him with respect, and refusing the Nabob's Letter which demanded Kissendass and his wealth I cannot conceive, without there were some hidden causes and motives which do not appear at present. The moment I was acquainted with the affair I dreaded the consequences of afronting so considerable a Servant of a young man intoxicated with Power and Wealth, and who expected an implicit obedience to his will. I therefore immediately applied to all the great men about the Nabob to prevent Narang Sing's complaining, and the affair was seemingly hushed up; but possibly when the Nabob marched to Rajamaul where he received the Governour's Letter which so much incensed him, Narain Sing who was then with him might take the opportunity to represent his own ill treatment. I must here remark that when Mr. Holwell found himself embarassed how to act I am surprised he should not propose to the Governor the asking the advice and assistance of the rest of the Council, why they did not. or why they assumed a power of acting by themselves, a Power no ways delegated to them, must appear extraordinary to every impartial judge. I must here again observe that the utmost efforts of Newangees Mahmud Cawn's Begum was to preserve her Gallant and Wealth, neither was it ever imagined that a loose abandoned old Woman would be able to stand in competition for the Government with Surajud Doulet.

4. The 7th Paragraph of Mr. Holwell's Letter requires no Answer. In the 8th he mentions that the taking of Gayree by his Majesty's Squadron, and the Naval Strength of the English in India, was the occasion of much speculation at the Durbar, this tho' I resided at Cossimbuzar and had constant intercourse with the most considerable Durbar Officers I never heard of, and I am confident from the many conversations I have had with them, that scarce any but a few Merchants knew who Angria was & even those who had heard of his name,

mentioned him with the utmost contempt as a needy robber. I likewise never heard that our having Sixteen Ships of War and a strong land Force coming to Bengal, ever gained belief at the Durbar, & any person who knows the nature of these Eastern People, how incurious & indolent they are, must be sensible how little they trouble themselves with occurrences & affairs that happen beyound their own Province.

5. In answer to the 9th 10th & 11th Paragraphs I must say it might have been possibly better if we had answered the Nabob's Perwannah as politickly as the French did.

6. With regard to the Letters mentioned in the 12th Paragraph few reached us, that in relation to enquiring of the Nabob's Ministers whether his intentions were to extort a sum of money from us never did.

7. The Letter of the 1st of June mentions not Roydullub one of the Nabob's Ministers but only a Jemmadar of his who might very probably be mistaken in his intelligence; however in the circumstances we were in, we thought it incumbent on us to transmit every particular we heard.

8. The small resistance they were able to make in Calcutta where their numbers and all kinds of Military Stores were above ten times more than what we had besides the advantage of Shipping to retire to, proves I think evidently how greatly the five Captains were mistaken in their opinion of the defencibleness of Cossimbuzar. Our whole Garrison according to our Muster Rolls consisted of only 51 or 52 Men, Six of which were Sick, and of the remainder there were not above twenty Europeans, and those most undisciplined Dutch Men, the rest being Topasses on whom little or no dependance could be put; with this Force we had orders to resist an Army of thirty thousand Men who had possession of all the houses round us which commanded the Bastions, and after we could defend the place no longer we were to make the best retreat in our power, a retreat of above a hundred Miles overland through an Enemy's Country, and in the face of so large an Army, for neither boats or dandy's could we expect to procure in those circumstances, or if we could, the River was too shallow to proceed down against so large a Force, it being in many places not above two feet deep. This Letter we never received, if we had, we should have submitted to the directions there given notwithstanding the apparent preposterousness of them.

9. In Mr. Collet's and my Letter to Your Honours I have given my reasons for going out of the Factory, which was by the advice and consent of all the Gentlemen of the Factory and Officer of the Garrison, and when I found myself detained in Camp and the Surgeon returned to the Factory, I told him that tho' I did not know what might be the consequence yet I did not think it advisable for Messrs Collet & Batson to quit the Factory; but the message not being delivered they came to Camp, when I told them the message I had sent, and that I was sorry to see them there. Mr. Holwell then proceeds and wishes for our sakes and the honour of our Country that we may be able to justifye our conduct in not fighting, in answer to which I must ask Mr. Holwell why he did not continue to defend the Factory when at the time of the delivering of it up he had five times the number of Men we had at Cossimbuzar. I term it delivering of it up, from the account I received from Mr. George Gray, Junior, a Young Gentleman of sense and spirit, who showed his account to many of his fellow sufferers who were then in the French Hospital at Chandernagore, & who allowed the account to be just, & I declare solemnly I never once heard of the betraying of the Back Gate to the Enemy tho' there were above 80 Men of different degrees in the French Hospital (till Mr. Holwell returned from Muxadavad who then told that story). Mr. Gray's &ca, account of the affair is as follows:—"Soon about noon the Governour & Coun-"cil thought proper to write to the Nabob & Duan demanding a Truce & an "accommodation but had no answer returned. About 4 O'clock the Enemy "called out to us not to fire, upon which the Governour showed a flag of Truce, "and gave orders for us not to fire; upon which the Enemy in vast numbers "came under the Walls and at once set fire to the Windows which were stopt "up with Cotton Bales, began to break open the Fort Gate, and scaled our Walls "on all sides; this put us into the utmost confusion, some rushed out at the Gate

"towards the River and others were surrounded by the Moors who showed them "signs of Quarter, upon which they delivered themselves up." To this I must here add that one Corporal assured me that when the Moors in numbers came under the Walls he had his match ready to fire a Flanck Gun on them, by which he must have destroyed many, but Mr. Holwell took the match out of his hand and extinguished it in a tub of Water. This is a Circumstance I should never have thought of mentioning had not Mr. Holwell laboured so much to arraign my conduct by artfully endeavouring to prove that one day's defence of Cossimbuzar might have saved Calcutta, and in order to do this he calls the Heavens to his assistance & makes it rainy, dirty Weather for several days after the taking of the Place, to this I answer and appeal to every inhabitant of Calcutta for the truth of what I assert that except one shower on the 2nd night after the place was taken, it was in general clear and dry Weather for many days I think to the beginning of July.

10. In answer to the last part of the 16th Paragraph I am informed from some of the Gentlemen that suffered at Cossimbuzar, that their ill treatment was owing entirely to the officer shooting himself which made the Moors apprehend if they were left free they might make some desperate attempt. Mr. Holwell's laboured endeavours through 5 sheets of paper to set my conduct in the worst point of light might induce me to retaliate on him the same method of reasoning by saying if he had defended Fort William to the last extremity, not hoisted the Flag of Truce which the Moors might take for a Flag of surrender or one of their own, and not suffered numbers to come under the Walls which gave them an opportunity to scale and take the place, or if when the Moors entered the place every one had used his endeavours to escape & had not been collected together, many might have escaped that suffered, or if you had defended the Fort till night you had a much better prospect of making a retreat with your numbers to Jungaraul where the Ships lay, then we had from Cossimbuzar where the distance was five times more, and our numbers five times less.

11. Mr. Holwell in the translation he gives of the Machulka he was obliged to sign has not only as he terms it varied the words but likewise the sense of it, what I signed to was, that in fifteen day's time the Gentlemen of Calcutta should level what New Works they had begun, deliver up the Nabob's subjects who had fled for protection there, and that if it could be proved that we had falsified the Company's Dusticks by giving them to those who had no right to them we should pay back what the Government had suffered by loss of dutys; this Machulka or Obligation. I alone signed to and not the Council.

12. What Arrassdasses were wrote from Calcutta to the Nabob the Gentlemen best know, but by what Roydullub the Nabob's Prime Minister answered when I desired leave to write to Calcutta it appears they never reached him, for Roydullub told me if any proposals of accommodation were made first from Calcutta I might write as often as I pleased, but till then positively refused me, and there is great reason to believe that they had no thoughts of an accommodation when they paid no attention to our Letter from Hughley, wherein Mr. Collet and I wrote that if the Governour & Council would send a proper person to the camp or empower us to act, we flattered ourselves that even then the dispute with the Nabob might be finish'd for a sum of Money, to this tho' we never read it, we were informed an answer was wrote, importing that after the disgrace the Company had suffered by the taking of their Factory at Cossimbuzar and imprisoning their Servants they were resolved not to come to any agreement.

13. The last dying speech of Mahubut Jung or Alliverdi Cawn to his Grandson neither he, or I believe any of the Gentlemen of the Factory ever heard of, neither have I since from any of the Country People; it seems an imitation of the speech of Lewis the XIV to his Grandson, and appears as Mr. Collet aptly terms it only a specious fable. That the Nabob never intended to drive the English out of his dominions, or proposed demolishing the European Fortifications and that his whole end and aim was money alone is I think sufficiently demonstrated by his behaviour to the French and Dutch, on his return to Hughly with his Victorious Army, who were in a most defenceless state, and from whom he demanded twenty Lacks

or Two Millions of Rupees, their Guns, Ammunition, and the demolishing of their Fortifications, but was at last pacified with four hundred & fifty thousand Rupees from the latter, and three hundred and fifty thousand from the former, which is agreeable to the proportion & payment of the two Nations, the French ever paying less then either the Dutch or Us: that during his stay at Hughley which was seven or eight days, he might have taken both places is certain, and that he had no Enemy immediately to proceed against is as undoubted, for he did not, nor could not pass his Forces over the great river Ganges into the Purnea country till the rains were over, and the waters fallen. Some of the most sensible among the French have told me that they represented to the Nabob that they could not think of staying in the country or carrying on any business with security without Fortifications, and that if the Nabob had persisted in his demand, the remedy they then would have had, was to have thrown their gates open to him and desired leave to retire with their effects. From the natural pacifick disposition of the Dutch there is reason to believe they would have acted with equal prudence.

14. Mr. Holwell having delivered in his Letter but a two days before we left Fulta, and our attention having been since taken up in the several measures necessary to be pursued for the future safety of Your Honour's Settlement, possibly I may have omitted on any particulars which may in future occur and oblige me to trouble you with another address.

15. I am sensible of the great advantage Mr. Holwell must gain in quitting India at this critical juncture and returning to Europe by the opportunity he will have of pleading his cause personally before you, but I flatter myself no determination will be made to my prejudice from any allegations of his, without hearing my defence, when I hope I shall be able to obviate any objections made to my conduct.

I am
with the Greatest Respect,
May it Please Your Honours,
Your most Obedient humble Servant,
W^M WATTS.

Calcutta,
January, the 30th, 1757.

TRIPLICATE.

To—The Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

May it Please Your Honours,—

1. Triplicate of our Letter from Fulta under date 15th September we now inclose in this Packet, You will therein see the misfortunes which have befallen your Settlement of Fort William and its Subordinates, the miserys and hardships we underwent by remaining in the River so many months confined to a few Ships and Vessels, and the steps we pursued to obtain a Re-establishment in these Provinces with restitution of the heavy losses your Honours and the private Inhabitants of Calcutta have suffered. In that Letter we promised you the particulars of the Siege when we next addressed you, but upon second consideration we find it impracticable to form a Narrative that will be assented to by all the Members of the Board who were concern'd in these transactions. We must therefore beg leave to refer your Honours to the several addresses those Gentlemen have separately made you thro' the channel of this Board: They are transmitted in this Packet and to your candour we submit our conduct, without any further comment.

2. We have already apprized Your Honours of the distress of your Servants, and the Inhabitants of Calcutta which made it necessary for us to allow them a subsistance at your expence. In this allowance we have been as frugal as possible, and we flatter ourselves the extra charges incurred by this means will not be esteemed unreasonable. Should we be fortunate enough to succeed in our operations against the Subah, (which we have not the least doubt of) we shall take care to see you reimbursed the amount of that expence.

3. By the face of our Proceedings while at Fulta, Your Honours will observe, we took the Ships *Doddaly, Fort William, Speedwell,* and *Lively,* and *Nancy Grabs* into your service on the most reasonable terms we could; this we were necessitated to do for the accommodation of the Inhabitants and Military, the security of your Effects from any attempts of the Moors, and to lade the Stores we purchased for the use of the Military, &c. We found it necessary likewise to freight the *Success Galley* for an Hospital Ship, numbers of our Military being sick, and the unwholesome damps of the ground at Fultah rendering it dangerous to send them ashore.

4. The Board having judged it expedient to appoint a Secret Committee for receiving all Intelligence relating to the Nabob's motions and concerting measures for our re-establishment, a copy of their transactions is likewise forwarded by this conveyance for your perusal.

5. The Select Committee appointed in your Commands of the 11th Feb^y^ 1756 will advise of whatever may be relative to the trust reposed in them. The number of Members in that Committee has been increased by the addition of the Major and Mr. Holwell which was moved for by our President in our Consultation of the 16th Dec^r^, to which day's Proceedings and that of the 20th we beg leave to refer Your Honours for our several opinions.

6. That Committee will inform you what efforts have been made by your Servants at Fort S^t^ George for the recovery of Fort William and the re-establishment of the Hon'ble Company in these Provinces. We can only acquaint Your Honours that in consequence of what M^r^ Pigot and his Council wrote us by the *King's Fisher* Sloop of War, We ordered all our Pilot Sloops to wait the arrival of the Squadron in the Road, and deputed Mess^rs^ Watts and Becher to give the Admiral as full an account of the state of the Country at that time as our Intelligence enabled us to do.

7. Admiral Watson arrived at Fulta on the 14th Dec^r^ with the *Tiger,* Man of War, he was soon after joined by the *Salisbury* and *Bridgwater.* Upon these Ships and the *Walpole,* with two Country Vessels freighted as Transports, Colonel Clive arrived from Fort S^t^ George with part of the Troops sent under his Command, and after refreshing the Military and Seamen, the Squadron moved up the River on the 28th Dec^r^. Two days after Buz Budgea (a place of great strength) was attacked by the Admiral's Ships and about eight in the evening carried by assaults. From thence Mr. Watson proceeded towards Tannah, and having dismounted their Guns both there and at a Battery erected opposite to it, he brought his Squadron before Fort William on the 2nd January and retook the place in less than two hours.

8. The next day we waited upon Mr. Watson in the Fort, who delivered over that, the Guns and Military Stores, the Town and Effects found therein to us as Your Honour's Representatives on behalf of the respective Proprietors. We are now making the Fort as defensible as our time will admit of, to prevent a second capture should the Nabob attack it again. To do this it is immediately necessary to level several of the Houses near the Fort, they have been pointed out by Colonel Clive and Mr. Barker, and valued by Mess^rs^ Becher, Colonel Raitt and Beaumont. This expence will not be very considerable, and is a charge which cannot be avoided.

9. Sensible of the importance it must be of to your affairs to be early informed of our re-possession, we applied to Admiral Watson before he left Fulta for the *King's Fisher* Sloop of War to carry that intelligence to Europe, but as he could not spare that Vessel for the reasons assigned in his answer entered after our Consultation of the Dec^r^, we determined to forward these advices by the *Syren* Sloop, and have given the Command of her to Mr. Jones at the recommendation of Admiral Watson.

10. As we esteemed it necessary to publish the reasons of our bringing so large a Force into these Provinces before we attempted any further acts of hostility, we have exhibited a manifesto of our injuries and complaints, with a Declaration of War against the Subah of these Provinces till ample restitution be made for the publick and private losses, and satisfaction given for the charges incurred by his violent proceedings. Copies of that manifesto were sent to the French and Dutch to prevent any suspicion that we might

intend their hurt or prejudice. Enclos'd in this Packet we send a Copy likewise for your perusal.

11. We have the pleasure to acquaint your Honours, that we had the good fortune to find a large quantity of Export Goods in your Cottah, which we are now embaling, and hope to send the *Delawar* away almost fully laden, by the 10th of next Month. Particulars of what Stores, &c., has been found will be transmitted by the *Delawar*.

12. Some private property has likewise been found in the place, and Notice has been given for all persons who have claims to any Effects left in the Fort or Town to send in their demands to the Sub Accomptant who has our orders to deliver it upon a receipt being given by the claimant to be responsible for the said Effects or their amount, in case it should be contested and awarded to another.

13. The inconveniences we experienced at the Siege of Calcutta from the prodigious numbers of Portugeese women who were admitted for security into the Fort, the very little or no service which that race of people are of to the Settlement, added to the prospect we had of a War with France (in which case we had reason to suppose they would refuse to take up arms against an Enemy of their own religion) (shou'd we be attacked) induced us upon our return to interdict the publick exercise of the Roman Catholick Religion, and to forbid the residence of their Priests in our bounds.

14. Our Chaplains having both demised Mr. Gerwas Pellamy in the Black Hole and Mr. Robt. Mapletoft of a fever at Fulta, we have appointed the Reverend Mr. Cobbe our Chaplain till your pleasure is known, with the usual Salary and Allowances annex'd to that benefice. He was Chaplain to the *Kent*, which Station he has quitted to serve your Honours, and he appears to us very worthy of your favour.

15. We were under a necessity during our stay at Fulta to dispose of the Bullion to Mr. Bisdoin, sent us by the President & Council of Fort St George, at a low rate to procure rupees, for our current expences; but we can assure your Honours we used our utmost endeavours to obtain a higher price which the unsettled face of things made impracticable.

16. Most of the Military and Artillery Officers upon our Establishment being dead, several Promotions were made by us, for the particulars of which we beg leave to refer your Honours to our Consultations, wherein you will observe Mr. Dugald Campbell had a Captain's Commission granted him, in consequence of your recommenda tion of that Gentlemen. He was since unfortunately killed at the taking of Buj Budgea, We have given the Company vacant by his death to John Fraiser Esqr.

17. The Ships freighted for your Service were all ordered to be unloaded, and will be discharged as soon as that is finished.

18. The Gentlemen at Bombay have indented for 500 Tonns of Salt Petre, and the Governour and Council of Fort St. George have wrote for the *Walpole* and *Marlbro'* to be returned from hence with as large a quantity of that article as we can procure, to do this and for our current expences they have made us a consignment of only 88,000 Rupees out of the remittance they have received this Season for the use of our Presidency. This Proceeding of your Servants upon the Choromandel Coast will render it difficult for us to comply with the above mentioned indents. We shall endeavour nevertheless to purchase as much Salt Petre as we can, by giving Interest Notes for the amount, and have wrote in the most pressing manner to Mr. Pigot and his Council for a speedy supply of money, without which it will be impossible either to attempt the provision of an Investment the ensuing Season or even to defray the necessary charges of our Military Servant's Wages &c. We must take the liberty to represent to your Honours how prejudicial this deficiency in the consignments from Madrass may prove to your affairs in these Provinces at this time, it being impossible (we are afraid) to borrow money at interest, and as impossible to carry on the Works necessary for our defence and the Operations in the Field against the Subah, without money, besides which we may lose many favourable opportunities of purchasing Goods proper for your use, by the want of ready Cash to pay for them, all which inconveniences the

Gentlemen upon that Coast must have been aware of, and their conduct therefore the more inexcusable.

19. We shall now reply to such parts of your Honour's General Letter this season, as we have it in our power to answer in our present Situation, many parts of which we are obliged to leave unanswered from the loss of all our Papers, Books, Consultations and Accompts.

20. We shall pay a due regard to the orders contained in the 14th Paragraph of your Letter ℘ *Walpole*, and protest against such Commanders as may loiter or delay the time after receiving our first dispatches.

21. The Accomptant has been directed to state and Accompt Current between the Company and every Europe Ship agreeable to your directions, which shall be transmitted in the Packetts of the respective Ships.

22. The President and Council at Madrass have landed all the Copper and Woollen Goods designed for this Place, should a favourable turn of affairs open any prospect of selling those articles, we shall desire them to forward hither such a proportion as we judge can be disposed of, and in that case we shall observe your directions, for causing the several sorts of Copper to be put up to sale distinctly.

23. The house and ground your Honours mention to have been bought by Colonel Scott, was purchased at his death by Capt. John Buchanan, of whom we bought the Mills for making Powder for the sum of 4,000 Rupees, and took the provision of that article into our own hands on your account, allowing Capt. Buchanan a gratuity to supervise and give the necessary orders for incorporating and working the ingredients agreeable to the Rules received last Season, by which measure we should not only have been supplied with better Gun Powder than we could purchase of any persons who made it for sale, but found it likewise turn out considerably cheaper; which method we shall always adopt for the future.

24. Your Honours having required our reasons very explicitly for the difference of our opinion touching Govindram Metre's purchase of the Farms, while he held the Office of Black Zemindar, we shall endeavour to explain the seeming contradiction of our Resolution in Council the 30th Jan. and the remark we made in our Letter of the 3rd of Febry following. Metre having been ordered to lay a statement of the profits he had made on the Farms he purchased during his being in your service, the majority of the Board were of opinion, he ought to refund the amount of such profits, not because those Farms were purchased in a clandestine manner, the contrary of which was evident, but because you had peremptorily ordered it, and therefore directed him to repay the sum of R4785-11-3, but at the same time we thought it incumbent on us to do him the justice to acquaint your Honours that we could see no reason to think he purchased those Farms in a fraudulent manner. This we can assure you to be truth, and you will observe in our Proceedings of the 30th Jan. that it is only said, Metre should be accountable for the profits he has made on the Farms by him held, but not by him held in a clandestine and fraudulent manner. We flatter ourselves this explanation will prove satisfactory, and as your Honours seem to acquit him of paying that money, if we do not think him guilty of acting fraudulently in the purchase, we shall not demand it of him any more.

25. Major James Killpatrick has received your Honour's Commission and desires to return his humble thanks for the favour you have shewn him. As he has desired to receive his Pay of 15 S. ℘ day instead of the salary you have appointed him of 250£ ℘ ann: we have consented to that alteration of your directions.

26. We have directed the Collector of Consulage to advertise your Orders relating to the Shipping off Goods for Exportation, and the Import duty to be levied in future on Goods which have not paid any Customs at your other Settlements in India, to take place from the 1st of May next. We have indulged the Colony with a dispensation of all kinds of Duty (the Export Duty on Grain excepted) and provisions, &c., till the last of December next ensuing from a consideration of the distress which the Inhabitants labour under at present, which we hope your Honours will approve of.

27. Our Books and Papers being lost we are to request you will transmit us a Set of Standing Orders for our future conduct. Copy of our Treasury and Cash Acc^{ts} and Acc^{t} sales to the dispatch of the *Denham* with the General Books ballanced to April 1755.

28. It will be proper likewise to send us an exemplification of the Charter, Instructions for the Mayors Court and Courts of Oyer and Terminer; Commission for holding Courts of Admiralty for the Tryal of Piraciss, and Powers to appoint Judge Advocates to general Courts Martial.

29. As we are not yet able to certify the state of our markets, we cannot pretend to make any Indents for Woollen Goods, Copper &c. All we can say upon that subject is to request you will not overload us with Imports till we advise you of there being purchasers. The Acc^{ts} remains of the J. W. H^{o} Stone Go-down and Military Stores will be forwarded by the *Delawar*.

30. The inconvenience and little utility of having any part of our Military force detach'd at Subordinates has been so much felt and experience'd by us in our late misfortunes, that we take upon us to recommend to your Honours never to maintain a Garrison up the Country, or have any numerous Factory's or Buildings which may require a large expence of repairs; should we find it necessary to have some Europeans at Cossimbuzar, Dacca or other Aurungs, a few of the Servants at each will answer the end as well and put the Company to little or no charge either in Durbar Presents or otherwise.

31. We have determined to defer filling up the vacancies in Council, while we have no Members absent at Subordinates, unless the Board should by Casualties or otherwise be reduced to less than nine; the number which was usually on the spot, when we had Factories in the Country.

32. Enclos'd is a List of the Covenanted Servants upon our Establishment, which compared with the List sent you last Season, will mark out those who are dead, most of whom were killed at the taking of Fort William; Mess^{rs} Hyndham, Lyndsay, and Vasmer, died at Fulta of fevers.

33. A copy of the Charter having been preserved by one of the Mayor's Court Attorneys, we found it absolutely incumbent on us (in consequence of a clause therein) to constitute and declare Bulrumgurry (the only Factory we had remaining) to be the seat of our Presidency, which your Honours will observe we did on the Oct^{r} and publish'd the same by our Secretary. Upon our return to Fort William, we have again removed the seat of our Presidency from Bulramgurry to this place, and have advertised such removal at the Fort Gates as usual.

34. Judging it necessary to put the Black Merchants and Armenians under some Regulations in future, we shall take into consideration when we have more leisure upon what footing to admit their residence within our bounds.

35. The greatest part of the inhabitants being totally ruined, and unable to discharge the whole of their debts by the fatal loss of the settlement, we beg leave to recommend their unhappy situation to your consideration, and as the calamity has been so general and destructive, and their misfortunes owing to no mismanagement of their's in Trade, but to the pillage and depredations of a powerfull and unexpected Enemy, We should esteem it an ineffable piece of goodness if your Honours could obtain a Clause to the Statutes of Bankruptcy in favour of the unfortunate sufferers at Calcutta. By which they should be discharged of all demands, upon giving up and assigning to and for the use of their Creditors whatever assets they may now be possess'd of, after which to be left at liberty to provide for themselves and families by Trade, without being liable to lett or molestation from their former Creditors, such a relief in the distresses the Inhabitants in general labour under at present would be of universal benefit, and we think but fair and equitable.

36. The long and dangerous sickness of our Secretary at Fulta, the death of the Sub-Secretary, and the impossibility of conducting the business of that Office in a regular manner on Board the Ships and Vessels we lived in, may probably occasion the omission of some Papers being entered after our

Proceedings, and other neglects of that kind, which we hope your Honours will excuse.

37. Mr. Holwell has delivered in a Letter to the Board address'd to your Honours which we transmit by this Packet, he begs leave to apologize for any errors in the dates he has mention'd, as he had no vouchers to rectify them, and was obliged to depend on his recollection alone. He likewise desires the slovenly manner it is transcribed in may be over-look'd, as he had not time to get a fairer Copy engross'd for this conveyance.

38. By this Sloop we have granted the following Bills of Exchange at $^{s\,d}_{2\,3}$ for each Current Rupee, the respective Amounts being first accounted for in the Treasury.

One Sett to Mr. John Pye dated the 21st Jany 1757 payable to Capt David Crichton or Order, for Currt Rups 933-5-3 or Lstr 105.

One Sett to Mr. Peter Amyatt dated 21st Jan. 1757 payable to Willm Barwell Esqr. or Order for Current Rups 888-14 or Lstr 100.

One Sett to John Zephanah Holwell Esqr dated 24th Jan. 1757 Payable to J. Z. Holwell Esqr or Order for Currt Rups 6,222-3 or Lstr 700.

One Sett to Monsr Le Beaume dated 25th Jan 1757 payable to Monsr Raphael De le Beaume de Chateawiedou or Order for Currt Rups 550 or Lstr 61-17-6.

One Sett to Mr. Stanlake Batson dated 25th Jan. 1757 payable to Mrs. Margaret Batson or Order for Currt Rups 335 or Lstr 40.

One Sett to Mr. George Gray dated 26th Jan. 1757 payable to Mr. Henry Allen or Order for Currt Rups 24,087-2-3 or Lstr 2,709-2-1.

One Sett to Mr. George Gray dated 26th Jan. 1757 payable to Mr. George Gray or Order for Currt Rups 9,212 or Lstr 1,036.

One Sett to Mr. George Gray dated 26th Jan. 1757 payable to Mr. George Gray or Order for Currt Rups 10,222-3-6 or Lstr 1,150.

One Sett to Mr. George Gray dated 26th Jan. 1757 payable to Mr. George Gray or Order for Curt Rups 9,777-12-6 or Lstr 1,100.

One Sett to Mr. George Gray dated 26th Jan. 1757 payable to Mr. George Gray or Order for Currt Rups 11,111-1-9 or Lstr 1,250.

One Sett to Mr. Peter Duncan dated 25th Jan. 1757 payable to Messrs Jos. and Frances Fowkes or Order for Currt Rups 9,436 or Lstr 106-2-5.

One Sett to Messrs Mackett and Peter Amyatt dated 25th Jany 1757 payable to Mrs. Martha Warren or Order for Currt Rups 1,810-6-9 or Lstr 203-13-5.

One Sett to Messrs Manningham and Frankland and Holmes dated 25th Jany 1757 payable to Sr Willm Russell Bart or Order for Currt Rups 3,222-15 or Lstr 362-11-7.

One Sett to John Zephanah Holwell Esqr dated 25th January 1757 payable to Messrs Davis Peter Taylor and Charles Whaley or Order for Currt Rups 13,333-5-3 or Lstr 1,500.

One Sett to Do dated Do payable to J. Z. Holwell Esqr or Order for Currt Rups 4,444-7 or £ sterling 500.

The whole amount of Bills of Exchange granted by this Sloop is Currt Rups 97,094-10-9 or Lstr 10,925-8.

39. We are now to acknowledge the receipt of our Commission transmitted us ℘ *Chesterfield*, for which we return our most humble thanks, and shall do everything in our power to deserve your Honour's favor and regard.

40. Before we close this Letter we beg leave to mention the good inclinations Mr. Watson has manifested to the interest of our Employers, his bringing the Squadron down the Bay notwithstanding he was call'd home, his readiness to assist us with His Majesty's Ships in recovering our Settlements, and with his advice when requested by our Select Committee, declaring War against the Subah on His Majesty's Part, and the disinterestedness he has shewn in delivering up the Fort & Town with the Guns, Military Stores, and Effects found therein, are all marks of the strongest attachment to the good and welfare of the Hon'ble Company and deserves a particular notice.

41. Major James Killpatrick having delivered us a Letter concerning his Salary of 250£ which your Honours have ordered should not be paid to the Majors in future, we enclose that Letter and beg leave to observe that his Pay and other Perquisites are very insufficient for the manner it is necessary for

him to live in; exclusive of the extraordinary care and charge he must have upon him as Major of the Garrison.

42. Captain Jones has our directions to follow any orders he may receive from Capt Richard Kin (after leaving the Pilot) who carries the Admiral dispatches to Europe.

43. As Mr. Holwell takes his passage in this Sloop we have committed the charge of this Packet to his care.

We are with the greatest respect,
May it please Your Honours,
Your faithfull Hb'le Servts.

ROGER DRAKE JUNR.
JAMES KILLPATRICK.
RICHD BECHER.
PAUL RICHARD PEARKES.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 31st Jany 1757.

TRIPLICATE.

To—The Hon'ble Secret Committee for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

HONORABLE,—

I address'd you from Fort St George under date of the 11th October, & now I have the pleasure to write you from Bengall & congratulate you on your being in re-possession of Fort William and on the taking & demolishing of Hughley.

The enclos'd Copies of my advices to the Select Committe of Fort St George, together with the accompanying Journal of Military Transactions & Return of the Forces with me, will fully inform you of all our Proceedings as well as our present Strength & Situation of Affairs.

You will perceive Gentlemen that what with the terrible mortality in Major Killpatrick's party at Fulta, 240 Europeans absent on the *Cumberland,* & not above half the intended number of Seapoys sent me from the Coast, the Force with me is vastly short of what I had room to expect, & will not admit of my carrying on an offensive War against the Nabob till I am joyned either by the *Cumberland's* Men or the expected reinforcement from Bombay. However by the Situation of our Camp & some Batteries we have erected I am quite in a condition to act defensively against his whole Army.

Fort William is already in a very tolerable state of defence. The Ditch is finished, & in few days a Glacis will be completed with an Esplanade of near 150 yards. The inclosed Plan will inform you what other works will be added, on the whole I may venture to assure you that in eight or ten days it will be out of all danger from the Moors.

The Gentleman of the Committee of Fort St George on advice of the War with France immediately dispatched Letters to me directing my return to the Coast as early as possible with what Troops cou'd be spared, which considering the reinforcement from Bombay they hoped would be near as many as I brought with me. Further advices from them dated 2nd & 11th December mention Monsr. Bussy's having set out from Hyderabad the 16th Novr & advanced towards the Sea Coast with about 1,000 men, having left 100 with Salabut Jung. They conclude his destination is for Pondicherry, there to join other Troops expected from the Islands, & make up a formidable Force for action in the Carnatick, therefore urging my return with as many Troops as possible both of the Madrass & Bombay Detachments for that all scheme of action in

Bengall must be dropt for the present, & our whole Force bent against the collected strength of the French on the Coast.

I have no account myself from the Chief of Vizagapatam, but by Mr. Pocock's Letter to Mr. Watson & the information of Lieut^t Rumbold arrived from thence, I understand that Mons^r Bussy gave out that he was coming to settle the affairs of this Province, but that by the direction of his march he seemed to have a design on Vizagapatam and the English Settlement in that neighbourhood. That when he was within about 6 days march of Vizagapatam & heard of the *Cumberland's* arrival there, he detach'd Mons^r Law with about 300 Europeans to Mazulipatam to defend it against any attempts from that Ship, as it is supposed, & he himself halted with the rest of his Army consisting as it is thought of about 4 or 5 hundred Europeans & a very large Black Force, both Foot and Horse. The accident therefore of the *Cumberland's* falling in with Vizagapatam, has saved your Northern Settlement for the present, which I fear on her coming away must fall a sacrifice to the superiority of the French Forces in that quarter.

All circumstances concur to make me wish a speedy accommodation in this province both with the Nabob and French, & it is my ardent desire to be able to embark for the Coast this month with some of the Troops, but it is hardly to be expected that matters will be sufficiently settled to admit of it. The Admiral declares he is ready to stay till September if your affairs require it, and it will be impossible for me to return without the Squadron. Indeed I am myself so sensible of the consequence which the Trade of this Province is to the Company, that I think I ought not on any account to draw off part of the Troops, while a fair prospect remains of a speedy and advantageous conclusion of affairs either by Force of Arms or a Treaty. Whenever we return I will endeavour to prevail on the Admiral to call at Vizagapatam to know the state of the Coast, & whether our Services will be necessary in that neighbourhood.

A second offer has been made to the French of a neutrality in the Ganges, and without the condition we formerly insisted upon, their joining us against the Nabob; as yet we have had no answer from them, but I think the proposition too advantageous for them to decline, unless indeed the Gentlemen of Chandernagore shou'd not be vested with Powers to enter into engagements of such a nature, which I somewhat suspect.

As to the Nabob a Treaty is now on foot with him, but I cannot yet Judge how sincere he is in his intention towards a Peace. He has wrote to the Admiral, and I am informed he dispatched a Letter to me, but as yet I have not received it; however I have heard from several of his great Men, & all their Letters intimate the Nabob's desire of an accommodation with the English. Nevertheless his Troops advance slowly towards us, & he himself is within 30 miles on the other side of the River, & hourly expected to cross it. His force consists of 30,000 men, Horse & Foot, if we may trust our Intelligence which indeed has all along proved very defective. It is possible his design may be only to amuse us with a Treaty for some particular ends, but a few days must bring that to light. By the *Delawar*, if not by this Conveyance, I shall be able to write with more certainty on this subject. Inclosed I send, Translate of a Letter I have received from Juggut Seat's Vakeel who accompany's the Nabob, also copy of my answer to him, & of a Letter I desir'd him to deliver the Nabob, by the tenour of which you will observe I am endeavouring to see if any good effects can be reaped from a moderate conduct.

The Nabob of Prunea was unluckily cut off, & his Country subjected just before our arrival here. The only competitor that is now likely to rise against Surajah Doulet is the Nabob of Cuttack, who it's said set out about two months ago to bring the Morattoes in the Province, and is now expected back: it is not improbable the Nabob is under some alarm from that quarter.

The Gentlemen of the Select Committee here have left the correspondence and negotiations with the Nabob to be transacted by the Admiral and me jointly. All propositions they make will be attended to, & for my part you may be assured Gentlemen that, notwithstanding my Independant Command, I shall endeavour to maintain a perfect harmony with them, & act throughout if possible with their participation. They thought proper some time ago to demand a surrender of my Commission as Commander-in-Chief, & that I wou'd put myself under their orders, which I looked upon myself as obliged to refuse in justice to those who had intrusted me with such Powers. However I represented to them what I had often declared at the Council Board, and what indeed the whole tenour of my conduct had confirmed, that I had no intentions of making use of my Independant Powers unless they reduced me to it by necessity, for we had but one common interest to pursue, which was that of the Company, and as long as that was kept in view they wou'd always find me ready to follow their instructions.

It will be unnecessary for me to explain the sorrows of the late unhappy loss of Calcutta, or make any observations on the conduct of your Servants before or during the troubles. Their own Letters, publick & private, will lay open the whole. I shall therefore spare myself the invidious task.

I request the favour of you Gentleman to consider that I have a large Army near me, and am taken up with many Civil as well as Military avocations and hope therefore, you'll excuse me if my advices are not so complete as you might expect. You may nevertheless be assured that no one has a warmer zeal or a more constant attention for your Service.

I have the Honor to be with great Respect,

Honorable,

Camp near Calcutta,
1st Feby 1757.

Your most Obedient and most humble Servant,

ROBERT CLIVE.

TRIPLICATE.

To—The Hon'ble Secret Committee for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Hon'ble,—

1. My last address was by the *Syren* Sloop dated 1st instant, when I acquainted you that my Force being far short of what I expected I was only in a condition to act on the defensive, that the Nabob was advancing towards us, and at the same time had made some overtures for an accommodation, and that the Situation of Affairs on the Coast and the pressing Instances of the Gentlemen of Fort St George for our return, made me earnestly wish to conclude a Peace in this Province as speedily as possible.

On the 3rd inst Letters came in from the Nabob proposing to restore our Settlement, & make some reparation for the Effects taken, and desiring proper persons to be sent to confer with him on the subject; at the same time the van of his Army appear'd in sight, and passed along towards Calcutta just without reach of the Cannon of our Battery to the Eastward.

3. Coja Patrus an Armenian who brought the Nabob's Letters assured me that the Nabob had by his own mouth promised to wait at a place called Gange where he then was, till the Conference was over, and I directly wrote him testifying my satisfaction at his pacifick intentions, and that two Gentleman wou'd be deputed immediately to treaty with him. As it was of great consequence to know the Nabob's real design without loss of time I dispatched Messrs Walsh and Scrafton to him in the next morning, who after travelling the best part of the way to Gange were informed that the Nabob had passed on to Dum Dumma, on which they followed him, & running through the rear of his Army came up with him in the town of Calcutta itself. On their admittance to the Nabob they represented that as they expected to have met him at Gange in a favourable disposition towards a Peace with the English, they could not but be greatly surprized in finding him entered in an hostile manner into their very City, and that unless he would manifest some desire of a Peace by withdrawing his Troops from the neighbourhood of Calcutta, they could not enter upon the business they came about. The Nabob refused to comply with

their proposition, & treating them with no small haughtiness they took their leave & returned to me late in the evening.

4. As I now plainly perceived he only meant to amuse us, & that the little opposition he had received served rather to state his hopes than incline him to moderate measures, I determined to attack him the next morning before day break, while two-thirds of his Army were still encamped without the Morattos Ditch, for when they had once passed and got into the streets of the town, it would be too late to attempt it. Another pressing reason for the immediate execution of this enterprize, notwithstanding the smallness of my Force, was the sudden distress we found ourselves in upon the approach of the Nabob's Army, by a general desertion of our workmen, coolies & servants, the breaking up of our markets and no provisions to be had but what was supplied from the Fort by water, in which condition we could not have continued long, but must have retreated into the Fort with disgrace. I therefore desired Admiral Watson to assist me with five or six hundred Seamen, principally for drawing the Artillery & carrying Ammunition, which he readily complied with, and about 3 in the morning I marched out with nearly my whole Force, leaving only a few Europeans with 200 New raised Bucksarees to guard our Camp. About 6 we entered the Enemies' Camp in a thick Fog & crossed it in about two hours with considerable execution. Had the Fog cleared up as it usually does about 8 O'clock when we were entire Master of the Camps without the Ditch, the action must have been decisive; instead of which it thickened and occasioned our mistaking the way. I avoid troubling you with the particulars of this undertaking as they are fully set down in my Journal of Military Occurrences.

5. The next day being the 6th the Nabob decamped and removed to Dum Dumma, & the Armenians was again sent to me with a Letter from Rungeet Roy desiring if we meant Peace to transmit our proposals to the Nabob who was inclined to comply with them. Accordingly the Select Committee was consulted & the Articles agreed on and forwarded, but the Nabob proposing to sign them in an evasive manner, a second Copy was sent to him to execute in positive terms, which he did, at least what were deem'd tantamount, and immediately set forward to Muxadavad with all his Forces.

6. Just at this time he had received advice that the Afghans had defeated the Mogul, & their Leader had seized the Government assuming the title of Ahmud Shaw Shahawn Shah: orders were immediately issued for coins for this province to be struck in the name of the new Emperor, & the Nabob it is supposed is hurrying to his Frontiers to make an alliance with his neighbor the Nabob of Lucknapore, sometimes called Owd, for their mutual Support in the present disturb'd state of the Empire.

7. I have little to observe on the terms obtained from the Nabob except that they are both honorable & advantageous for the Company. The Grants of a Mint & the Villages hitherto detained from us are very considerable, and the abolishing the Duties lately exacted by the Chowkies, as well as confirming the free transportation of Goods without Customs of any kind, & the rest of the Priviledges of the Royal Phirmaund are no small points gained.

8. The Nabob caused inventories to be taken of the Goods found at the out Settlement & Aurungs, and they are to be deliverd up accordingly. He intimated privately his intentions of paying three Lack of Rupees in consideration of the Company's other Losses, as to ample restitution for what was plunder'd by his Army at Calcutta, it could not well be expected of him as he says himself in one of his Letters.

9. The jealousies instilled into him by the French Agents made it necessary for us to conclude the Treaty with him out of hand, as well to convince him of our moderate views, which he seem'd to doubt, as to prevent his union with the French which was then strongly pushed on. As he must now be convinced of the consequence we are of to his affairs and of his advantage & security in a firm & close alliance with us, we may hope the Treaty will be complied with to our satisfaction, and that he will not be averse even to granting any further reasonable priviledges that may be required of him in future by the Gentlemen here.

10. Mr. Watts set out the 17th to attend the Nabob's Durbar & press him to the speedy execution of the several points of the Treaty on his part, and some Gentlemen are likewise gone to the different subordinates to receive the effects to be delivered over to them.

11. The French having given no answer to the offers of a Neutrality we made them, we were in hopes to have prevailed on the Nabob to suffer us to attack Chandernagore, since he had solemnly declared in his Letters that he would esteem our enemies as his and assist us with Forces against them whenever we required it. Rungeet Roy was first discoursed with on the subject upon his arrival with presents from the Nabob on the conclusion of his Treaty, but I have reason to think we met with no advocate in him in regard to this point. Omichund accompanyed him back to the Durbar, & had particular instructions to sound the Nabob on the subject. He returned with a Letter from the Nabob in which he desired us to furnish him with 25 Artillery Men, and refer'd us to Omichund for some particulars he had ordered him to impart; which were that he had been inform'd that Monsr Bussy with large Army was coming & that some French Men of War were likewise expected, & that he desired we would prevent the French from entering his kingdom by Land or Water. As this was construed in some measure a permission for attacking the French in Chandernagore, a proper answer was wrote to the Nabob, & Mr. Watts accompanyed by Omichund was sent to urge the point. The next Day being the 18th the Army crossed the river & encamped opposite to Barnagul & this day I intended to have began my march towards Chandernagore, the large Ship's were to have followed the 25th before which it would be dangerous for them to move on account of the irregular & rap'd tides. We were in expectation of receiving very soon further encouragement from Mr. Watts for attempting the enterprize, but yesterday arrived Letters from the Nabob absolutely forbiding hostilities against the French and declaring that he shou'd consider all attempts against them as a violation of the Treaty, & that he would assist them in such case with his utmost Force. At the same time came in a request from the Govr & Co of Chandernagore for a neutrality within the Ganges, which the Select Committee taking into consideration thought it adviseable to accede to rather than risque a rupture with the Nabob. Accordingly an answer was returned them that if they were duly impowered to conclude such an act, & could get it guaranteed by the Nabob we would come into it on our part. I wrote at the same time to the Nabob acquainting him of our submission to his orders, but that if by this means the French should hereafter be in such a state as to disturb his Country he must lay the blame on himself.

12. All operations therefore are now over, & I may hope in few days to take my passage for the Coast with the satisfaction of having left your affairs well re-established and a general tranquility in the province. My joy will be complete if I am so happy as to find my conduct throughout has been such as to merit your approbation.

13. Since I had the honour to address you last I have had no further advices from Fort St George, nor has the *Cumberland* appeared, nor any of the Troops we expected from Bombay; I can therefore return with very few men to the Coast. The importance of this colony is such that I cannot conclude better than by recommending to your Honours in the strongest manner to send but as large a Military Force as you conveniently can for its protection.

I am with the greatest Respect,

HON'BLE,

Your most Obdt & most hb'le Servt,

CAMP OPPOSITE TO BARNGUL,
22nd February 1757.

R. CLIVE.

DUPLICATE.

To the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONORS,—

1. Duplicate of our Letter ⅌ *Syren* is enclosed in this Packet.

2. Immediately after her dispatch we were alarmed with the approach of the Nabob's Army, part of which had penetrated into the outskirts of our Town. This obliged us to shut ourselves up in the Fort and. provide for a Siege. We appointed Messrs Sumner & Leycester, Commissaries of Provisions & order'd them to lay in a large Stock of all kinds. The confusion we were thrown into by this unexpected entrance of the Enemy, & the want of Cooleys Packers &c have retarded the despatch of this Ship (*Delawar*) so long. She is now laden, & we flatter ourselves will arrive in good time with your Honours.

3. On the 14th Instant the Select Committee laid before us Articles of a Treaty of Peace they had concluded with the Subah the 10th, and translate of the Agreement they had executed on behalf of the English. Copies of both are enclosed for your observation. We beg leave to congratulate your Honours on this speedy and happy conclusion of our disturbances upon terms so extremely advantageous to the Company.

4. The appointments we have made of Servants to go up to our subordinates and receive your Factories, Goods, Effects, Monies &c, you will observe upon the face of our Consultation of the 14th Inst. But as yet we have not established those Subordinates, which we purpose to take into consideration when we begin the ensuing year's investment. We have given the instructions to get the Goods they shall receive at the respective Factories in readiness as soon as possible, & send them down to Calcutta, intending to return the *Marlbro'* home fully laden from hence in September.

5. This being a proper opportunity to clear the town of the number of trees with which it is at present choak'd up, we have given orders for cutting them down.

6. The Factory House, Company's House and all the apartments for the Senior & Junior Servants being entirely destroy'd by the Moors, & there being no probability that the Nabob will consent to a restitution of private losses, we have taken the distressed situation of your servants into consideration, as the articles of provisions, necessaries &c, are grown dearer than formerly, & we have agreed to make them the following monthly allowances till your pleasure is known.

The President	300 Rs. P. Mm.
Each Member of Council. . .	100
Senior & Junior Merchants . .	70
Factors & Writers	40

over & above their usual monthly allowances, which we hope will not be esteem'd unresonable, as the advantages accruing to the Company from the Treaty now concluded are infinitely more than sufficient to compensate for their loss & charges, & will admit of relieving private inhabitants without prejudice to themselves.

7. We have resolved to send the *Phœnix* Schooner to the Gulph of Persia with duplicates of these advices to be forwarded *viâ* Alleppo, being sensible the receipt of them will be of great consequence to your Honours' Affairs.

8. The President has with great Difficulty procured eight hundred bags of Salt Petre at Chinchura which we have agreed to purchase tho' but indifferent, as we esteem it material to send as much of that article as we can to Europe in consequence of your orders. We shall lade it on the *Walpole*, which Ship we design returnnig to Fort St. George to be filled up & finally dispatched from thence to Europe.

9. As soon as things are settled we shall appoint a regular Committee of Accompts & take the Marine under consideration which we have not been able to attempt during the late troubles.

10. Enclos'd we send your Honours an Indent of Military Stores; Indents for the Import Warehouse & for Naval Stores we are not able to make & must in a few words request the usual quantities of Copper, Lead, Iron & Steel may be sent us with Naval Stores of all kinds.

11. In this packet are transmitted the Acc^{t} of your Cash receiv'd and disbursed at Fulta, with the Agent Victualler's Acco^{ts}. to November inclusive; if they should appear irregular or immethodical, we must hope to be excus'd, as our situation at that place rendered it impracticable to be so exact as we could wish. But your Honours may rest assured we shall not be wanting in exactness for the future, & shall be extremely cautious of disbursing your Treasures without an absolute necessity. The good effects of our care in that particular we hope your Honours will be soon convinced of when your observe the reduction of Charges at our several Subordinates which were so extravagantly high before.

12. The Establishment of a Mint being consented to by the Nabob, we have to request your Honours will send us out an Essay Master with other Persons & Materials for the better managing of that branch of business.

13. By this Ship we have granted the following Setts of Bills of Exchange at two shillings & three pence ⅌ Curr^{t} Rupee, the respective Amounts of each being first accounted for in the Treasury :—

One Sett to Richard Becher Esq^{r} payable to Mess^{rs} Nettleton & Raikes for CR^{s} 725-11-9 or Ls^{t} 81-12-11.

One Sett to Mr. John Cooke payable to Mr. Nathaniel Jacobs for CR^{s} 204-7-3 or Ls^{t} 23.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to Mr. Thomas Goodwin for CR^{s} 177-12-6 or Ls^{t} 20.

One Sett to Mr. George Gray, payable to Mr. Henry Allen for CR^{s} 11898-10 or Ls^{t} 1338-11-11.

One Sett to D^{o} payble to Mr. Thomas Mylne for CR^{s} 17226 or Ls^{t} 1937-18-6.

One Sett to Mr. Richard Court payable to William Fraser Esq^{r} for CR^{s} 322-6-6 or Ls^{t} 36-5-5.

One Sett to William Watts Esq^{r} payable to Mr. William Watts for CR^{s} 1620 or Ls^{t} 182-5.

One Sett to Mr. Robert Baillie payable to Mr. Hugh Baille for CR^{s} 444-7 or Ls^{t} 50.

One Sett to John Young Esq^{r} payable to John Young Esq^{r} for CR^{s} 8888-14-3 or Ls^{t} 1000.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to D^{o} for CR^{s} 8888-14-3 or Ls^{t} 1000.

One Sett to Paul Richard Pearkes Esq^{r} payable to William Fraser Esq^{r} or Mrs. Adriana Cecilia Pearkes for CR 1343-8-3 or Ls^{t} 151-2-10.

One Sett to Mr. Harry Verelst, payable to William Fraser Esq^{r} & Mrs. Cecilia Verelst for CR^{s} 556-2 or Ls^{t} 62-11-3.

One Sett to Mess^{rs} Mackett Sumner & Douglass payable to Richard Eyre Esq^{re} for CR^{s} 3121-2 or Ls^{t} 351-2-6.

One Sett to Mr. Thomas Raitt payable to Mr. Thomas Raitt for CR^{s} 1,155-9 or Ls^{t} 130.

One Sett to Thomas Boddam Esq^{r} payable to Thomas Boddam Esq^{r} for CR^{s} 5333-5-3 or Ls^{t} 6000.

One Sett to Mr. Peter Duncan payable to Messieurs Joseph and Francis Fowke for CR^{s} 2666-10-9 or Ls^{t} 300.

One Sett to Mr. John Mackmouth payable to Mr. John Mackmouth Senior for CR^{s} 1777-12-6 or Ls^{t} 2000.

One Sett to Mr. William Fullerton payable to Alexander Wynch Esq^{r} for CR^{s} 8,640 or Ls^{t} 972.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to Mr. Allen Auld for CR^{s} 540 or Ls^{t} 60-15.

One Sett to Cap^{tn} George Minchin payable to Mess^{rs} Colley and Nixon for CR^{s} 2666-10-9 or Ls^{t} 300.

One Sett to Peter Amyatt Esq^{r} payable to M^{t} Ynyr Burges for CR^{s} 311-1-9 or Ls^{t} 35.

One Sett to Mess^{rs} Manningham & Frankland payable to Archibald Stirling Acct Miss Glen for CR^{s} 937-0-9 or Ls^{t} 105-8-4.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to Mrs. Eleanor Powney for CR^{s} 487-4-3 or Ls^{t} 54-16-4.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to Miss Leonora Boys for CR^{s} 266-12-3 or Ls^{t} 30-0-2.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to Mrs. Rebecca Casamayor for CR^{s} 271-13-3 or Ls^{t} 30-11-7.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to Mrs. Sarah Hawkins for CR^{s} 415-4-3 or Ls^{t} 50-1-10.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to Mrs. Mary Houghton for CR^{s} 396-12-3 or Ls^{t} 44-12-8.

One Sett to Mess^{rs} Manningham & Frankland payable to Captain Thomas Navine for CR^{s} 2771-10-6 or Ls^{t} 311-16-2.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to John Hipwood for CR^{s} 356-12-3 or Ls^{t} 40-2-8.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to Mrs. Judith Whaley Acco^{t} Miss Judith Cottle for CR^{s} 3321-15-0 or Ls^{t} 373-14-4.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to Mrs. Ann Burrow for CR^{s} 3446-5-6 or Ls^{t} 387-14-3.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to John Henry Mertins for CR^{s} 707-9-0 or Ls^{t} 79-12.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to Cornelius Goodwin Esq^{r} Acco^{t} Elizabeth Cockle for CR^{s} 246-5-6 or Ls^{t} 277-6-4.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to William Campbell for CR^{s} 535-2-0 or Ls^{t} 60-4.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to Stephen Law Esq^{r} for CR^{s} 787-8-9 or Ls^{t} 88-12.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to John Gay Acco^{t} Miss Emilia Moore for CR^{s} 3781-10-3 or Ls^{t} 425-8-8.

One Sett to D^{o} payable to Thomas Manningham for CR^{s} 1298-12-0 or Ls^{t} 146-2-2.

One Sett to William Frankland Esq^{r} payable to Thomas Frankland for CR^{s} 1038-3-6 or Ls^{t} 116-16.

One Sett to Thomas Holmes, payable to Thomas Holmes for CR^{s} 444-7-3 or Ls^{t} 50.

The whole Amount of Bills of Exchange granted by this Ship is CR^{s} 102269-1-9 or Ls^{t} 11505-5-4.

14. The great utility of hav^{g} Europeans skill'd in the Persian Language, we have been more than ever sensible of during the late transactions with the Country Government. To attain a proper degree of perfection either at Calcutta or our Subordinates is almost impossible, as it requires a closer attention than Gentlemen engaged in other business can give, besides which the Teachers in that tongue are not Masters of it themselves. For these reasons we beg leave to re-commend to your Honours to send by the first Ships bound to Bombay after the arrival of these advices, five young Gentleman covenanted for our Establishment to reside at Bussorah, and to send annually two others upon the same footing that we may not be disappointed by casualties. These Gentlemen to study the Persian Tongue & nothing else, to rise in the Service as your other Servants do, receiving such allowance and salary during their stay as you may judge fit, and when qualified to be of use to come to Bengall, and take their standing according to their rank in the service; which we esteem to be the most effectual method of getting Europeans perfected in the true & genuine Persian Speech & Literature, and we dare say will be attended with many future advantages to the Company's Affairs.

15. The Board having appointed Mr. John Smith, one of our pilots, Deputy Master Attendant upon the death of John Afton, and his great care since in the charge of His Majesty's Ship the *Kent* and in your Marine, meriting in our opinion your Honour's notice, we take the liberty to recommend him to succeed to the office of Master Attendant in case of accident to Captain Henry Wedderburn, who is now in that post. Mr. Alexander Scott now Head pilot having likewise acquitted himself to the general satisfaction of every body both in your Honour's Service and in the care of His Majesty's Ships under his charge, we must likewise recommend him to your notice.

16. The President desires his humble thanks may be returned your Honours for the additional allowance you have been pleased to make him. We have agreeable to your Orders taken into consideration what Gratuity should be made the Collector of the Customs, we find that the Office will be attended with great trouble, & require almost the whole attention of the Person who is to execute it. We are therefore of opinion that an annual salary of two thousand Rupees will be but a reasonable equivalent for the time & pains which a proper discharge of that post will require. It will be necessary likewise to have one or two places appointed for the Export and Import of all

Goods & Merchandize with some apartments at or contiguous to those places for the Custom Master & his Assistants to reside at.

17. Mess^{rs}. Collet & Sykes are set out for Cossimbuzar, Messieurs Boddam & Playdell to Ballasore, Messieurs Sumner & Waller to Dacca, & Mr. Harry Smith to Luckypore, in order to receive the charge of those Factories & the effects seized there by the Nabob's Officers. This occassions our Letters, Bills of Exchange, & their papers to be signed by so few of the Board.

18. We have laden on this Ship sundry Goods and Merchandize consign'd to your Honours as ⅌ Invoice & Bill of lading enclosed amounting to CR^{s}— The Redwood and Salt-Petre being put on Board at Fort S^{t} George are left unvalued, as we do not know the prices of those Articles.

19. We have likewise laden on her sundry Stores for the use of Your Island S^{t} Helena, Invoice and Bill of Lading for which we have enclosed to the Gentlemen there amounting to CR^{s}—

20. Mr. Peter Amyatt, who dispatches this Ship will inform Your Honours of what may farther occur from Ingellie.

21. We wish her a safe and speedy passage and are

With the greatest Respect,

May it please Your Honours,

Your faithfull humble Servants,

FORT WILLIAM,

23rd February 1757.

ROGER DRAKE, JUN^{R}.

JAMES KILLPATRICK.

RICH^{d} BECHER.

W. FRANKLAND.

W. MACKETT.

TRIPLICATE.

To—The Hon'ble Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honorable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

HONORABLE,—

I can now congratulate your Honours upon the conclusion of a Peace with the Nabob of this Province, such a one I hope as will prove both honorable and advantageous to the Company. I have enclosed copy of the articles of Agreement to your Secret Committee, which articles are sealed & solemnly sworn to by the Nabob and some of his principal Officers.

I have nothing further to wish then that my conduct throughout the whole course of this affair may meet with your Honours' approbation, and to assure your Honors that whenever the necessity of your Affairs call upon me to act either in a Civil or Military Station, in any other part of India, I shall with equal readiness embrace the opportunity.

I enclose your Honors the continuation of our Military Proceedings and a return of all the Forces under my Command remarking all Casualties.

I am with the greatest Respect,

HONORABLE,

Your most Obdt. h'ble Servant,

ROBERT CLIVE.

CAMP NEAR CALCUTTA,

23rd Feby. 1757.

To—The Hon. the Secret Committee for Affairs of the Hon: United Comy of Merchst of England trading to the East Indies.

HON'BLE SIRS,—

1. Enclosed we transmit you Duplicate of our address by Mr. Holwell who returned to Europe on the *Syren* Sloop which vessel we hope has safely imported in England before the arrival of these advices. By this Packet we send one copy of our Proceedings, Letters, &c., for your perusal.

2. Since the dispatch of the *Syren* the Nabob's Forces approached to the outskirts of our town, contrary to a promise he had made the Colonel. Messrs Walsh and Scrafton waited on him in Omichund's Garden, but being received with indifference & giving no satisfactory answers to the proposals they made him, the Colonel on the morning of the 6th Instant, beat up his quarters, marched thro' his Camp and kill'd a great number of men. The loss on our side was not inconsiderable. We have reason to imagine the consternation this affair occasioned both in the Nabob and his Army induc'd him to sue for an accommodation by the intervention of Roy Rungeet, Juggerseat's Vackeel. The articles of the Treaty we have concluded with him are forwarded in the General Packet & are such as we flatter ourselves will prove satisfactory, the advantages resulting to the Compy. being more than sufficient to recompense the heavy Loss & Charges they have suffered. Whether greater concessions might not have been obtained if demanded, we will not pretend to determine.

3. As some particulars were omitted to be apply'd for, we have dispatched Mr. Watts to the Durbar at Muxadavad to endeavour the obtaining them, and to explain some Articles which at present seem liable to be open to evasion.

4. As the French Deputies when in Calcutta had declin'd the Tender we made them of our influence with the Admiral to consent to a Neutrality within the Ganges, We thought it incumbent on us, upon the conclusion of the Treaty of Peace with the Nabob to recommend the attack of Chandernagore by Sea & Land, which we were given to understand could not be disagreeable to the Nabob, & accordingly ordered Mr. Watts to touch on that subject at the Durbar, and obtain if possible his permission to expel that nation out of their settlements in Bengall.

5. For this end the Admiral and Colonel concerted measures to attack Chandernagore by sea and Land, and our Troops have crossed the River, but yesterday arrived three Letters from the Nabob to Admiral Watson, Colonel Clive and Major Killipatrick forbidding them to commit hostilities within his dominions, to prevent which and procure peace and quiet to his Country he had so readily consented to the late Treaty. He at the same time declar'd he should esteem an attack of the French settled here to be an open & direct violation of the late Treaty, & in that case he must in Honor & Duty to his King assist them with his Forces.

6. Yesterday we likewise rec'd a letter from the Director &Co of Chandernagore renewing their proposals for a Neutrality within the Ganges.

Upon taking this affair under consideration we have thought it adviseable not to hazard a second rupture with the Nabob, as the Company's Affairs are far from being settled here or well situated on the Coast. In consequence of this determination we have directed Mr. Watts to forbear making any mention of that subject at the Durbar, & have wrote to the French Directors & Cos that we have no objection to treat with their Deputies for a solid Neutrality, if they are authorized to conclude one, & will apply to the Suba to guarantee the said Treaty.

7. When Mr. Watts went up to Muxadavad we sent with him 15 Artillery men at the Nabobs particular request. From the purport of his Letters to the Admiral & Colonel, we have reason to think he is willing not only to live in a good understanding with us, but to engage in a Leage offensive and defensive. It has been likewise hinted to the Colonel, that he would pay the charges of maintaining 500 Europeans in Garrison, on condition he should be assisted when he was invaded by foreign Enemys or disturb'd by intestine troubles. Whether his sincerity herein may be depended on we cannot yet pretend to determine. We must however beg leave to observe that a strong Garrison in future at this Settlement will be absolutely necessary to

preserve our acquisitions by the late Treaty & prevent the encroachments of the Government.

We are with the greatest Respect,

Hon'ble Sirs,

Fort William,

Your most Faithfull & most obedient

The 22nd Febry 1756, say 7.

humble Servants,

ROGER DRAKE Junr.

ROBERT CLIVE.

RICHD BECHER.

P. S.—There being some Letters in the Packet under addresses to Holland. We think it would be proper to examine whether they may not enclose Letters for France.

To—The Hon'ble Roger Drake, *Junr*, President & Governour &ca Councill.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,—

Could I have obtained a perusall of Mr. Drake's Letter of the 24th January before the dispatch of the Europe Ships for the season, it should not have gone home without an answer. I often applied for it but never could get it till the 17th Instant, tho' it has been minuted on our Consultations as delivered in the 31st January. I think Mr. Drake should not be so severe in censuring people for blaming their fellow Servants & not giving them an opportunity to answer, as that is the method he has himself followed on the present occasion.

I have explained my sentiments so fully on the subject of Kissendass & Rojeram's Brother in my answer to part of Mr. Holwell's Letter that I see no reason to enlarge, but to observe that Mr. Drakes being absent when Kissendass was admitted no way exculpates him, as on his return to Calcutta (by his own account three days after his admission) he might have ordered him to retire. As to his assertion that it was as much the duty of the Gentlemen in Councill as his to point out any thing that occurred to them for the benefit of the Company he is certainly right, but Gentn must be acquainted with the motives for actions before they can judge whether they will prove beneficiall or otherwise. Others may answer for themselves how far they were acquainted with the reasons for admitting Kissendass & insulting the Messenger. I declare, that tho' I was, as Mr. Drake says, in Calcutta when Kissendass arrived & some days after, I was a perfect stranger to every transaction in Councill, & indeed the Gentlemen concerned in those actions took care to keep the rest of the Councill in the dark about them, for what reason they themselves can best tell. I left Calcutta the 6th of April & arrived at Dacca the 1st May, there I first heard of the refusall to receive the purwannah demanding Kissendass & his wealth & turning the messenger out of the bounds, every Gentn then at Dacca can vouch for my expressing my disapprobation of those actions as unwarrantable & likely to involve the Company's Affairs; but as I then looked on them as acts of the whole Councill & being unacquainted with the motives, I can't see I could with any propriety have intermeddled, so that Mr. Drake will excuse me if I do not account myself one of his after-thinkers, indeed it appears to me little thought was requisite. Could it ever be imagined any Prince would suffer a sett of Merchants to protect from him any of his subject much less a man who had enjoyed a considerable post under the Government, or would tamely put up with the insult to his messenger. Surely notwithstanding Mr. Drake's representation, the refusing to receive a Letter from the Suba of the province, & turning the Messenger away will be construed an insult by the whole world. Mr. Drake says I accuse him solely of assuming an arbitrary authority in the above actions, if my words convey that meaning I beg his pardon as it was not any design but to accuse him, Messrs Manningham & Holwell, of assuming such an authority. Mr. Drake asks me whether I have hitherto made an enquiry or from any certain knowledge can give the Board intelligence what methods were pursued to hinder the Nabob's approach & to pacify his ungovernable passion, in answer to which I am to acquaint Mr. Drake that I have made the best inquiry I possibly could, & do think if such measures had been pursued as pointed out in my Letter of the 24th January, it would have prevented the destruction of the place and saved the lives of those many brave Gentlemen who suffered in it. Mr. Drake must excuse me, but I think him, Messrs Manningham & Holwell much more to blame in not using proper means to accommodate matters than the other members of the Board, as they very well knew, they have given the Nabob sufficient cause to be angry with the English. Had the affair of Kissendass & the Messenger been laid before the Board, the Gentlemen would have been much better enabled to have formed a judgment what steps would have been most probable to have pacified the Nabob, the first certainly ought to have been to have acquainted him, Kissendass & his wealth should be immediately delivered. Whether any body ever hinted to those Gentlemen that Kissendass' Affair was the first cause of our troubles I can't say, but this I can venture to affirm that even as far as Dacca, every inhabitant of the Country I conversed with assured me that was the originall cause, & I own I was greatly surprized not to find the least mention of that affair in our Generall Letters, but the Fortyfications & the capriciousness of the Nabob given as the sole causes of his march against Calcutta, for till my arrivall at Fulta in August I never knew but that Kissendass' admission & the dismission of the Messenger were acts of the Councill. I can't admit that there is any contradiction in our General Letter to the Company from Dacca of the 12th July, & my arraignment of Mr. Drake's conduct under date the 26th November. Surely there is a great difference between refusing to listen to any terms of Accommodation & not using proper means to bring it about, but the meaning of our Letter was that we could not credit the report that Mr Drake would not listen to any terms of accommodation, it appeared inconceivable to us tho' it was confidently reported by the Country people. I must now beg leave to annotate on Mr. Drake's remarks or mine &ca Councill's Letter from Dacca to the presidency of Fort St. George dated the 13th July last, & am sorry to see Mr. Drake lets passion get so much the better of him as to accuse us of a design to prejudice our fellow Servants by accusing them without giving them an opportunity of answering, & now screening the French account as not thinking it fitt to appear before the Board. I assured Mr. Drake some time ago that I never kept a copy of that French Account, which is the real truth, & the only reason it has not been delivered in, but as the Gentn from the Coast have promised to send us copies of all Letters they received from hence relating to the loss of the place, I hope Mr. Drake will soon get a sight of it, but if his impatience is very great, I believe he has in his own possession a paper sent him by Mr. Young expressing pretty fully the sentiments of Foreigners on the loss of Calcutta: the Accot we sent to the Coast corresponds in most parts with that, only to the best of my remembrance that scandalous affair of the Bank of Genoa & Venice was not in it. I will allow that I am concerned I ever sent that account to the Coast as there are some materiall errors in it & even what is true is ill naturedly expressed, but I positively deny any intention to prejudice my fellow Servants in hopes of reaping any advantage from it, I should scorn so base an action & hope my generall character in the world will gain me belief when I declare my sole motive for arraigning the conduct of my Superiours has proceeded from my really thinking them highly culpable, & I firmly believe the Gentlemen that signed the Letters with me acted from the same principle. I hope it will be considered that at the time we wrote that letter to the Coast we were prisoners in the French Factory at Dacca, and had no opportunity of getting a better account. We thought it absolutely necessary speedy advice of the loss of the place should be sent. Things were represented to us in so bad a light by the French and all the Country People that we with concern give credit to what we heard and accordingly sent that account to the Coast; possibly we had better have waited till we could have got a more perfect one, but if we were wrong it proceeded from an error in judgment and not from such a base motive as Mr. Drake was pleased to attribute it to. The mistakes in the Articles of the Perwannah and the riches said to be carried off are acknowledged by me on the face of your Consultations & so shall any others Mr. Drake will point out. I think that Gentleman might be convinced I had no design by any underhand doings to hurt his or any man's Character, by the minute I made the first day I took my seat at the Board at Fulta, in which I publickly arraigned his and some of the Councill's conduct, and had he thought proper to have called on me for an explanation I should then have laid before the Board the Letters we had wrote and corrected the errors he could have showed one in them. Why Mr. Drake let such a Minute stand without notice for 3 or 4 months I know not, but believe most people would have expected any Gentleman accused would have immediately called for reason to prove the assertion. As that was not the case I did not think myself obliged to enter my reasons at that time, but this I can assure Mr. Drake and every other Gentleman that as circumstances have come to my knowledge I have in all my private Letters justified his & their characters as far as in my opinion they are justifiable. I beg pardon for the trouble I have given the Board.

I am with respect,

CALCUTTA, HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

The 22nd March 1757. Your most Ob^{dt} H'ble Serv

RICH^{D} BECHER.

Triplicate.

To—The Hon'ble the Secret Committee for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

HON'BLE SIRS,—

1. The transactions in Bengall since the re-taking of Fort William being of the greatest assistance to your Affairs, We have judged it proper to dispatch advices of them *viâ* Bussorah to prevent the conseqnences of a disappointment shou'd the *Delawar* not arrive in time. Enclosed is Copy of our address by that Ship with a translate of the Articles of Peace concluded with the Subah.

2. You will observe in our above mentioned Letter we advised of having wrote the French that we had no objection to treat with them for a Neutrality within the Ganges if they were authorized to conclude one. In consequence of this, the Deputies from the Director & Council at Chandernagore arrived at Calcutta. The questions we judged it necessary previously to ask, with their Answers in writing annex'd are enclosed in this Packet for your observation. When the whole was near settled, and the Treaty methodized & engross'd, we transmitted a Copy of our Proceedings herein to Admiral Watson, & requested his confirmation of the Neutrality agreeable to the 6th Articles of the Treaty. Copy of his Reply we likewise enclose by which you will observe he refused his assent to the Neutrality for reasons set forth in his Letter.

3. We then address'd Mr. Watson a second time, & urged him to confirm the Treaty which we esteem'd the most beneficial step that could be taken for the Company's affairs in these Provinces: but if he persisted in refusing that confirmation, we then made it our request that he would assist us with his Squadron to attack Chandernagore immediately, as our waiting till answers arrived from Pondicherry, without concluding any thing decisively, would prove very prejudicial to the Company's Affairs in general, but more particularly so on the Coast, where it was absolutely necessary some of the Troops should return as soon as possible. Copy of his reply to this request of ours is likewise enclosed in this Packet.

4. The next day we received a Letter from Mr. Watts intimating that he believed the Nabob would not interfere in our disputes with the French if we attack'd them. The same Çossides brought Letters to the Admiral and Colonel requesting their assistance against a Body of Pytans which he had notice were marching to invade his territories. This being esteemed a favourable opportunity to obtain his consent for making an attack upon Chandernagore, the question was put in the Committee whether Admiral Watson should a third time be urged to confirm the Neutrality immediately, or that Treaty suspended for a time, & another tryal made to get the Nabob's consent for attacking Chandernagore? The majority of the Committee were for suspending the Neutrality, of which we advised the Admiral, & requested his assent to the Treaty in case the Nabob persevered in his resolution to allow of no hostilities between the English and French in his Country. Mr. Becher being of a different opinion, his dissent is enter'd at large upon the face of our Proceedings.

5. Colonel Clive immediately after marched up & encamped near Chandernagore. On the 12th March we received a Letter from Mr. Watts wherein he expressly writes the Nabob had order'd him to inform the Admiral & Colonel that if we were determined to attack Chandernagore he would not intermeddle. At the same time Letters came from the Nabob himself to them repeating his request for our assistance, & assuring them that he would not assist the French. These letters, & some other circumstances induced us to address the Admiral, giving him our reasons for the alteration of our sentiments in respect of the Neutrality, & desiring the assistance of his squadron to reduce Chandernagore. Copy of this Letter with his answer are likewise enclosed. Mr. Becher declined signing this address as contrary to his way of thinking.

6. The place was accordingly invested by the Land Forces, soon after which the Squadron moved up the River, and having surmounted the obstacles laid in their way by the sinking of some Ships & Vessels in the Channel, they began the attack of the Fort early on the 23rd instant, and we have the pleasure to advise of it's being surrender'd to Admiral Watson the same day.

7. A reinforcement of Seapoys with some Military Stores are arrived from Madrass, but they have detained Mr. Brohier till they hear of our being in a state of sufficient tranquility to carry on the Works he may plan for the defence of our Settlement against an European Enemy.

8. We have the satisfaction to acquaint you that the Company's Subordinates are all deliver'd up, that the Goods & Effects taken in them are likewise delivering & that there is a probability of the Company's being but small if any sufferers.

We are with the greatest Respect,

Hon'ble Sirs,

Your most faithfull & most Obedient
humble Servants,

Fort William,
The 26th March 1757.

ROGER DRAKE, Junr.
ROBERT CLIVE.
JAMES KILLPATRICK.
RICHD BECHER.

DUPLICATE.

To—the Honble Secret Committee for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honorable,—

A Conveyance offering for Bussorah I take the opportunity of forwarding Copies of my advices to Fort St George since I had the honour of writing to you by the *Delawar* under date of 22nd Ult°. They will fully acquaint you of our success against Chandernagore and of the prosperous situation of your affairs in this province. I shall take the opportunity of addressing you more fully by His Majesty's Sloop *King Fisher* who will sail in few days for England.

I have the honour to be with the greatest Respect,

Honorable,

Your most Obedient and most

humble Servant,

ROBERT CLIVE.

Camp off Chandernagore,

31st March 1757.

DUPLICATE.

To the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please Your Honours,—

1. Our Letter by the *Delawar* gave you a full Account of our transactions to that time, enclosed we transmit a Triplicate of it, for your observation. Since which we wrote you a short Letter by the *Walpole*, which Ship was dispatched from Ingelee on the Ultimo to Fort St George with a small quantity of Salt Petre (all that we were able to procure), and some Tincall to be fill'd up, and finally dispatch'd from that Presidency to Europe.

2. We have acquainted your Honours of our having sent several of your Servants to the different Subordinates to receive the Factorys, Books, Papers, Goods, Moneys &cta, which were taken there, and which by the Treaty were to be return'd. By the Copies herewith transmitted of the Letters received from the Gentlemen at Cossimbuzar and Dacca, you will observe what progress has been made in the delivery of your effects, and the opinion of the Gentlemen at those Places, that your Honours are likely to be little or no sufferers there. From Ballasore we learn the same good news; and hope Mr. Watts will be able very shortly to procure a full restitution of what was taken in Fort William and our Aurungs, to facilitate and expedite which bussiness we have sent him up the Gomastahs that were employed in our Service, the receipts given by Manickchund and others for the Goods and Money they took, with an Accot of the Outstanding Balances which were collected by the Nabob, and have been regularly accounted for in his Sircarry. We have likewise sent up an Accot of the Export Goods left in our Cottah, what was found there at the retaking of the Place, and the deficiencies valued at the Company's Prices of the respective sortments; we design likewise to transmit the Accounts of the J. W. House, Store Godown, Buxey Connah, &cta, drawn out in the same manner, with directions to apply for the amount of the deficiencys in each office.

3. The *Marlbro'* was dispatched to Fort St George a few days ago in Ballast, as we could not procure any Salt Petre. We have desired Mr. Pigot and his Council to return her to us directly with the consignments of Woollen Goods, Copper &cta, which they detained out of the *Walpole* and *Chesterfield*, as we shall have Bales sufficient by September to lade her compleatly for Europe from hence.

4. As the provision of a large quantity of Salt Petre for the homeward bound Ships of this Season and for the use of your other Presidencies is of the utmost consequence, we have applied to the Directore and Council of Hughley to contract with us for Sixty Thousand Maunds (60,000) of that Article; the late calamity making it dangerous to contract with any of our own Merchants.

5. The Gentlemen at Dacca having wrote us that their Delols demand the same advances of Puttun which was made them before the troubles (and was

by them refunded to the Nabob of that place), in order to comply with their contracts which they have renewed, Mr. Watts is order'd to get them Bills upon Juggutseat's House for one Lack of Rupees (100,000) which they are directed to appropriate to the use of their Investments, with a caution to make as small advances as possible, and to take good security that the Company shall be no sufferers.

6. We have likewise ordered Mr. Watts to procure Bills upon Juggutseat's House for fifty thousand Rupees (50,000) for the use of Luckypore, at which Factory we have station'd Mess^rs^ Verelst and Smyth, and have directed them to begin their purchases immediately, as we shall be in want of some coarse Goods for the flooring of our September Ship, and are not certain of getting any Quantity of Gurrahs by that time.

7. In our former Letters we omitted to inform your Honours that the extraordinary good behaviour of your Junior Servants during the Siege of Calcutta, and their great forwardness to lend their assistance for the retaking of it, induced us to give several of them Commissions on our Establishment. Mr. W^m^ Ellis was one of them, and has had the misfortune to lose his leg in the skirmish of the 5th February, his gallant behaviour both before and upon that occasion entitles him to your Honour's notice, and we beg leave to recommend him as very worthy of your favour, especially as the unfortunate circumstance above mentioned may possibly oblige him to return to Europe. Mr. W^m^ Tooke was wounded at Chandernagore, and died the 24th March.

We are with the greatest Respect,
MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,
Your most faithfull and most Ob^dt^ Humble Servants,

FORT WILLIAM,
The 10th April 1757.

RODGER DRAKE, JUNR.
RICH^D^ BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
M. COLLET.
W. MACKETT.
P^R^ AMYATT.

To the Hon'ble Secret Committee for Affairs of the Hon^ble^ United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

HONORABLE,—

I addressed you fully by the *Delawar* the 22nd February, and by a Conveyance which offered for Bussorah I wrote a short Letter dated 31st March, just to acquaint you with the taking of Chandernagore, and enclose Copies of my advices to Fort S^t^ George of the 3rd & 30th of March, of which fresh Copies are now transmitted, as they contain circumstantial accounts of my Proceedings to the time they reach.

2. I continue encamped about a mile to the northward of Chandernagore, to which ground I found it necessary to move to put a stop to the disorders among the military by the too easy procurance of Arrack in the town, and at the same time I intended by this small advance northwards to strike some awe into the Nabob and facilitate our bussiness at the Durbar.

3. Under pretence of being engaged on a hunting party, which lasted some days, he was very delatory in answering our demands, both with respect to the French Subordinates and the Articles of our Treaty, which remained uncomplied with, and what Letters at last came, seemed in great measure trifling and evasive; however I have since wrote to him in very strong terms, to which I have

hitherto recived no answer, but Mr. Watts' Letters give me hopes that matters will be concluded to your satisfaction; possibly before this despatch is closed I may be able to give you an account of it.

4. The Nabob in some of his Letters had started a difficulty as to driving the French out of the province, on account of the injury it would be to the Mogul's revenues. Upon which the Select Committee agreed that if the French Subordinates were delivered up to us, the English Company would annually make good to the Circar the loss of Custom on the French Trade, so long as they should be kept out of the Country. Before the Nabob was acquainted with this resolution, another difficulty was started about the debts owing by the French to his Subjects, which I have likewise endeavoured to obviate by an offer of half of what may be found at their Subordinates, & have recommended to Mr. Watts to compromise the matter as well as he could, for I am entirely of opinion that the whole property the French may at present have, is no ways a consideration for interrupting the great work of rooting them entirely out of Bengal. I must take the liberty to refer you to my Book of Country Letters for a more particular account of what has passed on these matters. Those from the Nabob will in great measure discover how weak & capricious a Prince we have to deal with. The spring of most of his actions seems to be fear, and the French and their Agents well knowing his weakness have given no small interruption to our business by reports of a French squadron & Bussy's Army.

5. By the Nabob's delatory conduct I have been prevented from putting the Troops into Quarters which I had fully intended to have done by this time, to prevent the heavy expence of Batta and other Charges attending a Camp. I proposed to have sent the Bengall & Bombay Troops to Calcutta, who would be full as many as could be accommodated there, and to have kept the things & Madrass detachment at Chandernagore. But till we have finally settled with the Nabob it would be highly improper to decamp far; from such a disposition as his we should certainly meet with greater impediment in our business by a step of that kind.

6. A small march to the northward I am persuaded would forward our affairs in the same degree, but I am unwilling to do any thing that looks like an infraction of the Peace, unless absolutely necessitated to do it by repeated willful delays on his part.

7. What with the Company's Servants and Military withdrawn from Dacca & Judgea, Fugitives from hence, and English Deserters, the French are able to muster at Cossimbuzar about 150 Europeans and 100 Seapoys, it is said they have a design of retiring to Patna, and that they have applied to the Nabob for his permission. What his intentions may be in regard to them I cannot yet discern, he has assured me he has no thoughts of entertaining them in his Service, but I am nevertheless something suspicious of it. It is certain that he keeps their Factory invested, and that he has demolish'd some Mud Works they had begun to raise for it's defence; and by a Letter received that night from Mr. Watts dated 12th Instant, I am advised that the Nabob had promised to send him Mr. Laws, the French Chief, the next day, to settle the terms of his capitulation with the English. Mr. Watts added that from what had passed in a conference between the Nabob and Omichund, he hoped every thing would end well, and that he should write me fully the next day which Letter I very impatiently expect.

8. It was agreed in a Council of War that it was proper for many reasons to demolish Chandernagore Fortifications, and the Select Committee concurring in the same opinion it was determined on; and I shall take care to see it put in execution.

9. A Bomb having fallen into the Secretary's Office during the Siege, many Books & Papers were burned, and the rest (together with those of the other Offices which were contiguous) were carried out and thrown promiscuously into a Warehouse where they still remain locked up, and ready to be delivered to the Gentlemen of Calcutta.

10. I now transmit you an inventory of the Ordnance & Military Stores taken in Chandernagore, the greatest part of which will be very necessary for your Garrisons of Calcutta and Cossimbuzar.

11. I likewise inclose a List of the Vessels which were sunk by the French to hinder the passage of our Ships up the River, or scuttled & ruined to the northward of the Fort. Out of these last the greatest part of the Articles not liable to damage by water, such as Cowries, Butter &c, have been saved; but none of the Vessels could be got off. You will observe how heavy a loss the French have suffered in their shipping alone, and as they were mostly loaded with provisions for the Islands, they must undergo some distress there for want of them. In short when Chandernagore is considered as the Granary of the Islands and Pondicherry as Mistress of a great trade to Europe, and round India as a large & opulent Colony already, and which seemed to promise to increase, the loss of it must be acknowledged a very severe blow to the French Company and Nation.

12. The Governor & Council of Chandernagore with the rest of the Gentlemen on Parole having retired to Chincura, I had certain information that they not only harbour'd the French prisoners who escaped from us but furnish'd them with Money, Guides & even Arms for their march to Cossimbuzar. The Padres and other Engines were employed to promote their escape, and not less than 50 march'd off one night from the Hospital, most of whom were dispatched to Cossimbuzar; first receiving Money & Guides for that purpose from the Governour himself. In short as I found it very prejudicial to your affairs to let them remain any longer at Chincura, particularly the Governor & Council who began to assemble and act as a body, and by their correspondence kept up the spirit of Laws and his party and intimidated the Nabob with reports of Bussy's army being near, I summoned all the French on Parole to repair to Camp, and after acquainting them what unjustifiable practices had been carried on by them, I insisted that the Governour and Councill should remove to Calcutta, and that the rest should live at Chandernagore, or anywhere to the Southward of Chincura, so that they were immediately under our inspection. The Gentlemen of Council pleaded that they were not prisoners of War by the capitulation, and made some difficulty in surrendring themselves, till the Dutch Directore in compliance with our demand ordered them to leave his bounds. When they appeared they pretended to be ignorant that they had given their Parole not to act directly nor indirectly against His Brittannick Majesty or his Allies, and affected a surprize when I shew'd it them under their hands. As for the Capitulation which they lay hold of, it is very certain they forfeited all benefit from it by opening their gates and letting out some Officers and above sixty Europeans, and burning and destroying a large quantity of valuable goods while the Capitulation was in Treaty, and even after it was agreed on and signed to by us.

13. The last advices from Fort St George were of the 9th March when all was quiet in the Carnatick. Two French Europe Ships the *Duc de Berry* and *Le Siecle* arrived at Pondicherry the 3rd February, bringing about 200 Military with Ammunition and Warlike Stores and a good deal of Treasure which they were in much want of. They gave out that four Europe Ships had stayed behind at the Islands on account of the Sickliness of their Crews.

14. By an English Vessel which touch'd at Bandamalanka about the middle of March, we have an account that Monsr Bussy had taken some Rajah's Fort in that neighbourhood, but that it had cost him 200 Europeans and many Blacks. It is said that among the rest Monsr Law was killed. I could wish that the Chiefs of the Northern Settlements had taken opportunities of writing me what passed relating to Monsr Bussy as I am at a loss what weight to lay upon the intelligence I receive from other hands.

15. With respect to the Rajhaam who have entered Agra and the apprehension of their marching this way begins to be renewed, tho' the Rains which are soon come on must prevent their designs for the present.

16. Before I conclude this Letter I shall remark that considering the quiet situation of the Coast, and the Service already done and still to do in this province, it is very happy for your affairs that the Troops remained here.

I am with the greatest Respect,
Honorable,
Your most Obedient and Most humble Servant,

ROBERT CLIVE.

CAMP NEAR CHANDERNAGORE,
16th April 1757.

G. C. Press, Calcutta—No. 112—28-7-94—500.

AT A COMMITTEE.

PRESENT :

GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., *Governor, President.*

ROBERT CLIVE.	ROBERT ORME.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.	WILLIAM PERCEVAL.
HENRY POWNEY.	ROBERT PALK.

Wednesday, the 22nd September 1756.

Letter from Roger Drake, Esq., Peter Godfrey, Esq., Jones Roymond, Esq., John Voyne, Esq., and Christopher Burrow, Esq., the Secret Committee of the East India Company, dated the 13th February 1756, and received per ships *Walpole* and *Chesterfield*, read—

By the 3rd paragraph it is observed that this Committee are invested with the power of "transacting affairs, and taking such measures as shall best con-" duce to the Protection and Preservation of the Company's Estate, Rights and " Priviledges, and to correspond and act in concert with the Select Committees " at Bengall and at Bombay, for the General and particular Protection of the " Company's Trade, Possessions and Rights wherever and whenever they may be " in danger. The powers of the Committee never having been before so fully " explained, it was imagined that they extended only to Negotiations with the " Princes of the Country and Foreign European Nations, and to the Operations " of the Troops in the Field. For this reason the Conduct of the Intended Expe-" dition to Bengall has unto this time been had under the Deliberation of the " whole Council," but it now appears beyond doubt that it ought to have fallen under the Management of this Committee and that the future Direction of it should be referred hither.

Ordered that the paragraph before mentioned of the Secret Committee's Letter be laid before the President and Council, together with the above Opinion.

The Council having accordingly met, came to the following Resolution :—

" That the Transactions for Re-establishing the Company in their Rights " and Priviledges at Bengall do properly fall under the Direction of the Select " Committe by virtue of the foregoing paragraph," That it be therefore referred to the said Committee to do therein as they shall think proper, and that they be fully informed of the steps that have already been taken.

The President then acquaints the Committee that the Last Determination of the Council concerning this Expedition was that the whole squadron should proceed with six hundred men Rank and File, and the Detachment of His Majesty's Artillery under the Command of Captain Hislop with the Guns, &c., thereunto belonging, the whole commanded by Colonel Clive, under the General Direction of Commissaries appointed with full powers for the Conduct of the Treaties to be made with the Nabob of Bengall, or of the operations of the Forces against him, which Commissaries so appointed were Colonel Clive, Mr. John Smith and Mr. John Walsh.

And that a letter conformably to the said Resolutions was wrote to Colonel Adlercron but no answer yet received.

Agreed that the consideration of the other parts of the Secret Committee's Letter be defered to another opportunity.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLIAM PERCEVAL.
ROBERT PALK.

Wednesday, the 29th September 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE PRESENT:

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., GOVERNOR, *President.*

ROBERT CLIVE.

HENRY POWNEY,

WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

ROBERT ORME.

ROBERT PALK.

Charles Watson, Esq., Rear Admiral of the *Red*, and George Pocock, Esq., Rear Admiral of the *White*, likewise present at the request of the Committee.

Discourse being had concerning the intended expedition to Bengal Mr. Watson recommends that it be conducted in all respects like that to Gheria.

It is to be observed in regard to the expedition to Gheria: First, that Mr. Watson and Mr. Pocock were joined with Colonel Clive and Mr. Hough in a Commission for the conduct of the expedition; and, secondly, that everything taken at Gheria even to the guns and ammunition was appropriated to the benefit of the captors, although the Company was at the whole expence of fitting out the armament and also of repairing the damage done to His Majesty's ships.

How far the Gentlemen at Bombay were right to consent to such terms the Committee do not take upon them to determine, but they proceed to offer to Mr. Watson's consideration several reasons why the present intended expedition to Bengal ought not to be conducted in the same manner.

With regard to the first point (the powers to be given Mr. Watson) the Committee represent to Mr. Watson that the present expedition to Bengal is intended for the re-establishment of the Company's ancient settlements in that province, upon the former or, if possible, a better footing; that this must be done by treaty with the Nabob, and that this treaty which regards only the Company's rights and priviledges can properly be conducted by none but the Company's representatives at Bengal. The military part of the expedition, by the success of which it is hoped the Nabob will be brought to enter upon such a treaty, should undoubtedly be conducted by a Council of War composed of officers of the sea or land forces, or both, according to the nature of the undertaking; but the civil part such as the making of treaties for the re-establishment of the Company's rights and priviledges, and the regulating the affairs of their former settlements, the Committee judge, can belong only to the civil servants of the Company.

Mr. Watson then desired to know plainly what powers he was to be vested with, and what services we should request of him to perform upon the present expedition; to which the Committee answered that the powers he had from His Majesty were quite sufficient; and that they should only request of him to perform such services as may be recommended to him by the Company's representatives in Bengal.

With regard to the second point (the distribution of captures), it is to be considerd, that the present expedition to Bengal is fitted out, like that to Gheria, at the vast and sole expence of the Company, but with different views; that to Gheria was to root out a robber who had long infested the seas and so to give a future security to their trade, and by the capture of his places to acquire new possessions to themselves. This to Bengal is intended for the recovery of the ancient settlements, rights and priviledges of the East India Company which have suddenly been wrested from them, and to reimburse by reprisals, if all other means prove ineffectual, the immense loss they have so recently sustained in their own property. The Committee therefore think themselves obliged to exert their utmost efforts to secure to the Company the immediate possession of their own settlements that may be retaken, and such portion of the reprisals that may be made upon the Moors as His Majesty shall be pleased to adjudge to them. Accordingly the Committee now deliver to Mr, Watson in writing the representations resolved on last Committee as follows:—

1st.—As it may be supposed that one or more of the men-of-war will be sent before Calcutta, and the Moors driven out by her cannon, it is requested of Mr. Watson that he will land Colonel Clive with the Company's troops or a part of them to take possession again of that settlement, and whatever may be found within the Company's limits as usually understood, from Perrin's Garden down to Surman's Garden, for the sole benefit of the Company; which request it is hoped will be thought reasonable as the Company have suffered an immense loss, and are to be at the whole expence of the expedition.

2nd.—Should it be judged proper by the Company's representatives after the taking of Calcutta to request the assistance of the squadron to attack Hughley or any other Moors' town, or to make reprisals in the river upon Moors' vessels, it is hoped it will not be thought unreasonable that Commissaries be appointed on both sides to dispose of the prizes that may be so taken, their produce to be deposited until it shall be determined by His Majesty in what manner it should be distributed. A gratuity to be given for the present at the discretion of the Council of War to the petty officers and private men, and to be deducted out of the portion which may be allotted to them.

Mr. Watson assur'd the Committee that for his own part he was ready to give up all private advantages for the good of the Company and the publick, but as every man in the squadron was also concern'd, the proposals must be laid before a Council of War, which he would summon immediately and communicate their determination without loss of time.

Mr. Watson then enquired of the Committee what number of men was intended to be sent on the expedition to Bengal; in answer to which the Committee informed him their design was to send four hundred military rank and file, and one hundred train, besides the detachment of the regiment now on board the Squadron consisting of about two hundred men; but in case that detachment did not proceed, then that it was their intention to send six hundred military rank and file, and one hundred train, and further that it was designed to send as many seapoys as conveyances could be found for.

Mr. Watson acquaints the Committee that the five hundred Europeans only could be distributed on board the several ships of the Squadron, over and above the detachment of the regiment.

Agreed to embark the Europeans on His Majesty's ships, and to send by the Company's ships *Marlborough* and *Walpole* all the seapoys they can take on board, and to make use of any future conveyances that may offer for the embarkation of more seapoys.

The Committee then requested of Mr. Watson to land the detachment of the regiment in case application should be made to him by the Company's representatives at Bengal, which he readily promises, with the proviso that he shall himself see an absolute necessity for their service on shore, and is assur'd that they shall be re-embarked upon his call.

Lastly, the Committee debate with Mr. Watson concerning the regulation of the Councils of War that may be found necessary to be held in Bengal, and the Precedency of the several officers, in order to prevent future altercations on that head which might interrupt the service; accordingly the following articles were formed in concert and with the unanimous consent of Admiral Watson, Admiral Pocock, Colonel Clive and the whole Committee:—

1st.—It is proposed that at all Councils of War held on board His Majesty's Ships, the Commanding Officer of the ships shall preside and call to his assistance such other Captains of the squadron, as he shall see proper, together with Colonel Clive and any other Field Officer.

2nd.—That at all Councils of War held on Shore, Colonel Clive shall preside and call to his assistance such Field officers as he shall see proper, together with the Captains of such part of the Squadron as are employed on the joint service. This is understood to be in the absence of any Flag officer.

The two articles being deliver'd to Mr. Watson in writing, he acquainted the Committee he should lay them before the Council of War; and then

Admiral Watson and Admiral Pocock withdrew.

Letter from Captain Maskelyne, Commanding in Arcot Fort, read, advising of Ensign Kerr's march for Madras with fifty of the best men of his garrison, and remarking that those who remain are chiefly recruits.

The President at the same time acquainted the Committee that upon application from Captain Maskelyne for leave to proceed with the intended detachment for Bengal, in consideration of his rank, being one of the oldest Captains, and of his being long deprived of an opportunity of going on service during the last troubles being a prisoner of war, he had permitted him to come to Madras for that purpose, and directed the eldest officer to take charge of the garrison of Arcot.

The President further acquaints the Committee that the Cowles for the mortgaged countries of seven Maganums and Mannamungulum expiring the 31st July last, he has made the necessary enquiries in order to get the most advantageous offers for the new Cowles, and that at length Muhammad Ayar Cawn had offered nineteen thousand (19,000) Pagodas for one year's rent of the seven Maganums, and thirteen thousand (13,000) Pagodas for one year's rent of Mannamungulum, which, although one thousand Pagodas less for each Cowle than before, are nevertheless, the President represents, the best offers that can be got, and he desires the opinion of the Committee whether they should be accepted.

Agreed that the said offers be accepted.

Resolved that Mr. Manningham be desired to attend the Committee to-morrow morning, that the proceedings and Resolutions relative to the Bengal expedition may be communicated to him, and that we may learn from him the more particular information to which we are referred by the Gentlemen at Fulta.

George Pigot.
Robert Clive.
Stringer Lawrence.
Henry Powney.
Robert Orme.
William Perceval.
Robert Palk.

To the President and Members of the Secret Committee of Fort St. George.

Gentlemen,

In consequence of your representations to me yesterday, I have assembled a Council of War, who are of opinion no answer can be made with propriety till you declare who you deem to be the Company's representatives at Bengal. I therefore desire you will please to send an answer immediately as the Council are waiting.

I am,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
CHARLES WATSON.

Fort St. George,
The 30th September 1756.

As Mr. Watson in Committee yesterday recommended the expedition should be conducted on the same footing as that to Gheria, it is imagined that the tendency of the enquiry in his above letter must be to learn whether it is designed that he himself shall be one of the representatives in the same manner as he was joined in the Commission at Gheria. The Committee therefore think it sufficient to return him for answer that only Company's servants can be esteemed their representatives. A letter was immediately wrote, signed, and sent to Mr. Watson as follows:—

To CHARLES WATSON, Esq., Rear Admiral of the *Red,* and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Squadron in India.

SIR,

The servants of the Company must doubtless, and can alone represent their masters in Bengal on all occasions relating to their affairs, and it is to the representations of these servants that we shall at your departure do ourselves the honour to desire the same attention from you that you have hitherto been pleased to show to those made by ourselves.

We are,
SIR,
Your most obedient, humble servants,
GEORGE PIGOT, &c.,
Committee.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
The 30th September 1756.

Letter from Mr. Wynch read, advising that he has sent the two brass six-pounder field pieces that were at Fort St. David, and a petard from Devecotah by His Majesty's Ship the *Bridgewater*, according the directions received from the President.

After 12 o'clock received another letter from Mr. Watson as follows:—

To the President and Members of the Secret Committee of Fort St. George.

GENTLEMEN,

I am sorry to trouble you again for what I thought was so plainly asked before. That the servants of the Company must represent their master's affairs in Bengal I make no doubt, but since you oblige me to be so very explicit, I must desire you will let me know the names of those servants whose representations you will, at my departure, desire me to attend to.

I am,
GENTLEMEN,
Your most obedient humble servant,
CHARLES WATSON.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
The 30th September 1756.

Agreed to defer returning any further answer to Mr. Watson until we have confer'd with Mr. Manningham, as it is not impossible, but his representations may cause some change in our former resolution concerning the representatives in Bengal.

The Committee being met at 2 in the afternoon and Mr. Manningham being likewise present.

The whole proceedings of the Council and Committee relative to the late misfortune at Bengal were read. Mr. Manningham, in the course of this reading, made many observations in vindication of the President and Council of Fort William from the misconduct they are charged with in the several letters from Messrs. Watts and Collett, Holwell, &c., particularly on the subject of Mr. Drake's giving protection to the Nabob's tenants, of his ill-treating the Nabob's messenger, and his not endeavouring to accommodate affairs before they were carried to too great a length.

But as it may be impossible for Mr. Manningham to recollect at once all the circumstances he may have to offer in justification of the Gentlemen in the late administration at Calcutta, and as the Committee will not besides pretend to be judges of their conduct, it is agreed that a copy of all the advices received from Bengal, and of our proceedings thereupon be delivered to Mr. Manningham that he may have an opportunity of committing his observations to writing in a more explicit manner for the information of the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, to whom alone the determination belongs.

More especially on the perusal of the Consultation of 21st September last, whereby Messrs. Clive, Smith and Walsh are appointed a deputation for the general conduct of the expedition, to be instructed to receive a plan of operations from the Gentlemen of the Council of Bengal for a guide to their correspondence with the Nabob, and yet empowered to act contrary to that plan if they think necessary, Mr. Manningham begs leave to offer his thoughts to the Committee:—

First, that this power to be lodged in the deputies totally destroys all the authority of the President and Council of Fort William.

Secondly, that this Board are not empowered to give a Commission which shall destroy the authority vested by the Company in the President and Council of Fort William, which authority he thinks does and ought to subsist notwithstanding the loss of the place, and that he believes there is an act of Parliament which would set this point clear.

Thirdly, that as it is not in the power of this Board to destroy the authority of the President and Council of Fort William, so neither does he think it can be beneficial to the Company's affairs; for that—

Fourthly, it is to be imagined the Gentlemen who have so long resided in Bengal must be best acquainted with the Company's interest in that Province, with the temper of the people and the views of the different Rajas, &c., and for that reason best qualified for the management of whatever may be undertaken there.

Fifthly, the destroying the authority of the President and Council of Bengal would lessen them so much in the opinion of the Company's servants and of all the Natives, that they would be rendered absolutely incapable of ever again transacting the Company's affairs in their different stations; for which reason—

Sixthly, it is probable that many of the Company's servants would in such case chuse to quit and go to Europe in order to lay their case before the Court of Directors, by which means the Company's affairs might be distressed for want of servants.

The Committee pointed out to Mr. Manningham that the great inducement of the Council to nominate deputies for the conduct of the expedition, was, as appears by the Minutes of the said Consultation of 21st September, the absolute necessity of reserving to themselves the power of recalling a part of the troops intended to be sent to Bengal in case of a war with France, leaving only a sufficient force for the defence of Calcutta; whereas the Gentlemen of Bengal have the power over the troops lodged in them, might determine that the carrying on the war in Bengal, in case a full satisfaction had not before been obtained from the Nabob, was as necessary to the Company's welfare as the defence of this coast, and on that consideration they might resolve not to return us any of the troops.

Mr. Manningham therefore assures the Committee that he is persuaded the Gentlemen of Bengal will have no objection to the leaving the whole military authority with Colonel Clive, that they will pay the greatest attention to all that he may recommend during the course of the expedition and a particular regard to whatever may be represented to them from this Board. Finally, Mr.

Manningham desires that the Resolution of the 21st September may be reconsidered.

As Mr. Manningham can have but one voice in the Council of Bengal, his assurances cannot be deemed decisive, but in conformity to his request, it is agreed to take under deliberation the question whether the Resolution of the 21st September relating to the nomination of deputies for the conduct of the Bengal expedition should be altered or not, and after a long debate in which on one side were urged the reasons entered in the Minutes of Consultation of 21st September, on the other the arguments offered by Mr. Manningham; so many inconveniences and objections appeared on both sides, that the Committee could not at this meeting decide upon the question in debate, and having sat till nine at night it was resolved to defer the determination until to-morrow morning.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENVEY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLIAM PERCEVAL.
ROBERT PALK.

To the Hon'ble George Pigot, Esq., President and Governor, &c., Council at Fort St. George.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,—Inclosed is duplicate of our address under date the 18th, since which we have received advices from Cossimbazar that we think proper to communicate to Your Honor, &c., with our sentiments and resolution thereon.

Mr. Warren Hastings, one of the Hon'ble Company's covenanted servants at Cossimbazar and now detained at that place by the Nabob, writes Major Kilpatrick to the following purport: That Suraja Dowlah is no longer Subah of Bengal, which is conferred upon the King of Delly's eldest son; that the Nabob of Purnea (Soukat Jung) has received a Phirmaund from the King investing him with the Nabobship of Bengal, Behar and Orissa under his son, and great preparations are making at Muxadabad for a war with Purnea in consequence of the foregoing appointments; that the Nabob of Benares has sent 6,000 horsemen to the assistance of Soukat Jung; that most of the Rajas whose territories lie near Purnea have deserted Suraja Dowlah, and that on the 29th of last month a letter arrived from the Dutch Chief at Patna with advice that the King with his son and Nazir was upon his march this way at the head of a formidable army, having crossed the River Jumna twenty days before with an intention, first, to reduce these provinces to his obedience and afterwards to visit all the other parts of his dominions; that the Morrattas likewise are expected soon, it being reported they have imprisoned the person sent to pay them their annual chout, with which they are not contented, and that Mizzah Sallah, the Nabob of Cuttack, has joined them. That the Nabob begins to be much troubled at the impending dangers, and his Jumnidars seem not very inclinable to serve him with that zeal which his present desperate circumstance require against their King, as they may expect to be treated like rebels, most of the principal of them having a great part of their fortunes, and some their families at Delly. That notwithstanding all this, Suraja Dowlah is raising a great army, and extorting as much money as he can get from the Rajas and other people that are so unfortunate as to lie under his power, not sparing the Europeans.

The above is the substance of Mr. Hastings' information upon which we beg leave to make the following remarks: First, that the whole of it is not affirmed by that gentleman to be matter of fact, and that in all probability great part of it may be no more than a report raised by the enemies of Suraja Dowlah; next, that Suraja Dowlah is possessed of such immense riches, and has so large an army on foot, that it is very possible he will be able to extricate himself by one means or other from the dangers which threaten him at present. Lastly, should he be cut off or expelled from his Soubahship, we should find immense difficulties to re-establish ourselves in the priviledges and grants which the Royal Phirmaund sets forth, and upon a proper and secure footing, unless we can support our demands with a sufficient and respectable military force. These reasons we flatter ourselves will convince Your Honor, &c., of the necessity as to the utmost of your power for recovering the Hon'ble Company's settlements, rights, and priviledges in these Provinces notwithstanding the intelligence we have received from Cossimbazar.

We do not write this intelligence as a certainty or with any intention to check the resolutions you may have come to for the assisting us, but if you should be prevented from sending us so considerable a force as we could wish, and have requested, by advice of a rupture between the Crowns of Great Britain and France, we are then to desire you will supply us with as large a number of Military and Artillery as you may judge consistent with the safety of the Honourable Company's possessions on your coast, that we may be ready and in a condition to make use of any turn in our favour, for which purpose and in hopes of Your Honour &c., complying with our request, we are determined to keep the river till we receive your answer and are ascertained if we may expect a further reinforcement, without which we apprehend it will be impossible to re-establish ourselves in Bengal.

We beg leave to remark that could we regain our settlement during the troubles in the country it would be of the utmost consequence in recovering our priviledges which we had in the country; it would be extremely difficult as well as expensive if the Government should be settled before we repossess our colony. This consideration we flatter ourselves will have its due weight with Your Honour, &c., and we make no doubt will influence your resolutions for sending us as large a force to our assistance as you can possibly spare from the calls on your coast, and that, as early as you conveniently can.

Inclosed we transmit you the return of Military and Military Forces now in our fleet, and are sorry to observe to Your Honour, &c., that sickness greatly prevails among them, having lost Captain Godwin, Lieutenant Samson, Lieutenant Hardman, Ensign Nanga, and Ensign Walcott belonging to this establishment, and private men now sick and dead upwards of one hundred.

When Captain Leogan left Bengal in the month of May, he carried away some freight belonging to the Moors, which was returned in his sloop and by us demanded of him, but he peremptorily refused to deliver it upon our receipt, which we beg leave to mention to Your Honour, &c., that you may take proper notice of his behaviour.

Inclosed we transmit you a packet for the Honourable Company which we request you will forward by any vessel that may be under dispatch for Europe from you coast, and we likewise inclose a packet for the President and Council of Bombay to be forwarded by *Patamar* or *Shipping* as you may judge most expeditious.

We are,
HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,
Your most obedient, humble servants,

ROBERT DRAKE, JUNIOR.
JAMES KILPATRICK.
PAUL RICHARD PEARKES.
F. L. HOLWELL.
PAUL AMYATT.
WILLIAM WATTS.
RICHARD BECHER.
W. F. M. COLLET.
WILLIAM MACKETT.
THOMAS BODDAM.

Dacca, the 27th June 1756.

AT A COUNCIL, PRESENT:

RICHARD BECHER, ESQ.

MESSRS. LUKE SCRAFTON.

THOMAS HINDMAN.

SAML. WALLER.

The Consultation of the 21st read, approved and signed. This day at noon our Vakeel came from the Durbar and acquainted us that the Nabob told him Suraja Dowlah had taken and plundered the town of Calcutta, and had also made him master of Fort William, taken Mr. Holwell and some other gentlemen prisoners. That the Governor, second, and some few more having taken to the ships were endeavouring to make their escape down the river. That this intelligence came from the French. Our Vakeel further acquainted us that Busharut Khan, our Nabob, demanded that we should surrender ourselves immediately, which if we did not comply with, he would attack us, having everything in readiness. This account appears to us so improbable, that we apprehend it is put about in order to induce us to surrender. Agreed therefore that Mr. Scrafton write to Monsieur Courtin desiring him to acquaint us if he has received any certain advice of the taking of Fort William by Suraja Dowlah. In answer to which we received the very melancholy confirmation of what our Vakeel had told us. Monsieur Courtin assuring us that he had received the most certain advice of Fort William's being taken by the Nabob. That his letters were of the 19th, 20th, and 21st from the Governor and Council of Chandernagore and several other gentlemen, that he was using his endeavours to the Durbar to save our lives and honor; he advises us to come to as speedy a resolution, telling us that bravery becomes temerity and imprudence when exerted *mal à propos*. Taking this affair into our most serious consideration, we are unanimously of opinion that there is no reason to doubt the truth of this news. Agreed therefore that we write to Monsieur Courtin returning him our most sincere thanks for his kind designs in our favour, and to desire he will permit Monsieur Fleurin to come to us, and let us know what terms can be procured for us in case we find we can't avoid surrendering.

We now take into consideration the state of our factory, garrison, provisions, &c., and from thence are to form a judgement whether we can render any material service to our Honorable employers by attempting to defend ourselves.

As to the situation of our factory it stands in a large town surrounded with numbers of houses from which they might annoy us with cannon and small arms. The factory is little better than a common house surrounded with a thin brick wall, one-half of it not above 9 feet high. Our garrison consists of a Lieutenant, four Serjeants, three Corporals and ninteen European soldiers besides thirty-four black Christians, and sixty Buxieries. As to the last we have little to expect from them, as they have almost all demanded leave to quit us. Our provisions may last three weeks or a month, but if we are attacked our hmmunition will soon be expended and our men exhausted with fatigue, as we have so few they must be almost always on duty. Our factory is at the distance of near a quarter of a mile from the river. The passage by water to Calcutta from fourteen to twenty days. That from Muxadavad to Dacca about four, from which place our enemies might receive reinforcements in eight or ten days. Notwithstanding the disadvantage of our situation, the smallness of our garrison, &c., we were determined to defend ourselves to the utmost had we been attacked while Fort William continued in the hands of the English, and to enable us to do it, we had planted what guns we had to the best advantage and with the assistance of the soldiers thrown up breast-works, &c., and privately procured an additional quantity of powder. But since we are sure Fort William is taken, and that we can't expect the least assistance or reinforcement from the Gentlemen who are escaped in their ships, it does not appear to us that our attempting to defend ourselves can be of the least advantage to our employers, and would rather be an act of rashness than bravery. Agreed therefore that we endeavour to procure the best terms possible by means of the French and surrender our factory.

Observing numbers of armed men all around us. ordered our garrison to keep under arms and a strict watch to prevent a surprize.

RICHARD BECHER.

LUKE SCRAFTON.

THOMAS HYNDMAN.

SAMUEL WALLER.

Dacca, 28th June 1756.

AT A COUNCIL PRESENT:

RICHARD BECHER, ESQ., *Chief.*

MESSRS. LUKE SCRAFTON.
THOMAS HYNDMAN.
SAMUEL WALLER.

The Consultation of the 27th read, approved and signed.

This morning Monsieur Fleurin, the French second, came to our factory to acquaint us that he had been with Busharut Khan, our Nabob, endeavouring to procure us the most favourable terms he could, but all that he was able to obtain was, that the factory should be delivered up directly, the soldiers lay down their arms, and be carried prisoners to the Nabob, the ladies go out in palankeens to the French Factory, the palankeens not to be searched on Monsieur Fleurin's giving his word that nothing should be in them but the cloaths the ladies had on. As to the Chief, &c., Company's servants the Nabob demanded that they should be first brought to him, and afterwards go to the French Factory, Monsieur Courtin giving his parole to the Nabob that we shall wait the orders of Suraja Dowlah in regard to our future fate. Taking these proposals into consideration, we think them very hard. But as Monsr. Fleurin assures us that very little alteration can be expected, agreed that we beg Monsr. Fleurin to endeavour to save us the disgrace of going to the Durbar, and obtain permission that we go directly to the French, also that the soldiers may not be ill-used. This he promises to endeavour to obtain and to return in the afternoon.

The 28th June in the afternoon Monsr. Fleurin returned and acquainted us he had obtained permission for the Gentlemen to go to the French Factory without going to the Durbar, and that the Nabob had promised the soldiers should not be ill-used or put in irons. We then gave our paroles to the French Chief, gave up our military prisoners to the Nabob's people, and are now with sorrowful hearts leaving our factory being permitted to carry off nothing but the cloaths upon our backs, having still this satisfaction left that we have to our utmost discharged our duty to our Honourable employers.

At 6 in the evening
the 28th June 1756.

RICHARD BECHER.

LUKE SCRAFTON.

THOMAS HYNDMAN.

SAMUEL WALLER.

To—Monsieur Courtin, Dacca.

Monsieur,—Vous savez déjà ce que m'a dit Monsr. Sinopay au sujet de plainte qu'a le Nabob contre les Anglois, l'origine, par conséquent, de la guerre qu'il leur fait, et tout ce qui s'est passé à Casimbazar.

La prise de leur fort en cet endroit, loin de satisfaire Suraja Dowlat, n'a fait que lui élever le courage; la facilité avec laquelle il s'en est emparé lui a, sans doute, persuadé qu'avec un peu de peine, il viendroit à bout de chasser également les Anglois de Calcutta, et, qu'au moyen de celà, il se rendroit maître de tous les trésors que la Begum de Nawabs Mahmetkan et Rajabouloe y ont faït passer. Rempli de cette idée, et du nom qu'il s'alloit faire par cet exploit, il n'a voulu écouter les représentations de personne, pas même celles de sa mère, qui a voulu le retenir par le reproche qu'elle lui a fait de s'aller mesurer contre des Marchands. Surlechamp, les ordres ont été donnés pour faire prendre les devants à son Armée, dont nous avons vu successivement défiler sur nos derrières plusieurs corps, de 4, de 6, et de 7 mille hommes, avec de l'artillerie. Lui-même est parti le 5, c'est-à-dire, deux jours après la reddition du fort Anglois, à la tête de vingt mille hommes. L'on fait monter de nombre de ses Eléphans à 300. Son artillerie est composée de 500 pièces de Canon, du nombre des quelles sont 84 pièces qu'il a tirées de la loge Angloise, avec 500 mans de Poudre, et deux mille boulets de fer. A l'exception de cette Artillerie Européenne, et de ses provisions, le reste de cet appareil n'est pas fort dangereux, du moins, à en juger par quelques pièces de canon que nous avons vues au Jardin des Hollandois, où un detachement de quelques Cavaliers qui les conduisait à resté deux Jours s'étant égaré de sa route, et n'ayant jamais pû obtenir passage au travers de l'aldée: nous les avons été voir par curiosité. Rien n'est plus pitoyable que la façon dont ils sont montés et approvisionnés; l'on prétend qu'ils n'ont que des boulets de Caolin.

Depuis le départ de Suraja Dowlat de Meuxadavad jusqu'au 15, on n'avoit eu aucunes nouvelles de lui, et ce retardement avoit donné lieu à bien des suppositions, plusieurs personnes prétendant qu'il étoit encore renfermé dans son Serrail; d'autres, que sentant la difficulté de son enterprise, il vouloit entrer en négociation. En effet, un Vaqueel de Coja Wazeed ayant voulu faire des propositions à Monsr. Drake, on soupçonna que le Nawab, pour ne pas se compromettre, avoit fair agir ce Marchand; mais ces bruits fûrent bientôt dissipés par l'arrivée de ce Seigneur, qui coucha le 15 dans un Jardin vis-à-vis de Chinchurah.

Les Vacqueels des deux Nations lui presentèrent le Salame dans cet endroit; le notre fut bien reçu. Et même, il y eut deux Bétels pour Monsr. Renault; mais, pour les Hollandois, il ne se contenta pas de les refuser; il leur fit connoître fort clairement le mépris qu'il avoit pour eux, et le dessein où il était de leur rendre quelque visite à son retour, etc. A Calcutta, le lendemain on le vit passer dans cette grande plaine qui est en face de la loge, de l'autre côté de la Rivière: ses Chameaux, ses éléphans, son train etc, nous occupèrent toute la matinée.

Avant son départ de Meuxadavad, craignant, peutêtre, que les trois nations ne s'entendîssent mutuellement, ou bien agissant de bonne foi, il fit appeler au Durbar les Vacquéels François et Hollandois, leur déclara la resolution où il étoit de chasser les Anglois de Bengale, et en même temps vouloit sçavoir quel secours il pourroit attendre de leurs maîtres dans son expédition.

Le Hollandois qui avait, apparemment, sa leçon toute faite, se hâta de répondre, que sa Compagnie n'étoit que Marchande, point du tout faite pour la guerre; qu'à peine y avoit-il à Chinchurah 10 pièces de canon, et 50 Soldats. Tout de suite, et, assurément, pour nous rendre un mauvois service, il ajouta: "Adressez-vous aux François; ils ont un fort à Chandernagore; d'ailleurs, ce sont des Gens que ne peuvent rester en repos, ils ne demanderont pas mieux que de se battre contre les Anglois; ils sont toujours en guerre avec eux tantôt battus, tantôt battants, il faut qu'ils aient toujours les armes à la main. Cette réponse, loin de produire l'effet qu'en attendoit le Vacqueel, a inspiré à Surajá Dowlat et à son Durbar le plus grand mépris pour les Hollandois, ce qu'ils ont témoigné par beaucoup de marques d'indignation, et en même temps, leur a donné une idée avantageuse de notre Nation, dont il connoit la valeur. Le Nabob étoit si content qu'il a fait mille amitiés à notre Vacqueel, l'a renvoyé avec deux bétels pour Monsr. Law, et deux pour lui-même, et a déclaré publiquement qu'il voulait nous donner Calcutta en propre, qu'il alloit nous en faire délivrer le Paravana, si nous voulions souscrire à toutes ses offres. Il a ajouté que son dessein étoit de nous élever, dans la Bengale au même degré que nous étions à la côte, ayant ainsi vendu la peau de l'ours avant de l'avoir tué, etc.

Il étoit si persuadé que nous allions accepter ses offres que, quelques jours après, il demanda à notre Vacqueel si Monsr. Renault avoit déjà envoyé ses Vaisseaux pour cercler Calcutta par eau, pendant que ses troupes l'entourreroient par terre. Vous devez savoir, Monsieur, qu'elle a été la résolution du Conseil à cet égard, et la réponse qu'on lui a fait faire, scavoir : qu'on ne pouvoit rien entreprendre contre les Anglois sans y être autorisé d'Europe, ou, du moins, de Pondichéry, vu que la guerre n'étoit point declarée entre cette Nation et la notre : etc.

Les Anglais avoient établi deux Batteries au dessus et au dessous de Calcutta. Ils s'y étoient retranchés ainsi que derrière une grande Sopéi qu'ils avoient tiré autour de leur Aldée, résolus de defendre les approches de leur Colonie autant qu'ils pouvoient. Mais l'arrivée du Nabob a fait changer de face à toutes leurs dispositions. A son approche, ils ont non seulement abandonné cette enceinte, mais même la defense de leur Colonie Européenne. Ils se sont retirés dans leur loge, où ils se sont entassés. La bravade qu'ils avoient faite dans les commencemens, d'empêcher que qui que ce soit ne sortit de leur Aldée, pour faire voir leur confiance, n'a servi qu'à augmenter l'effet produit.

Les Anglois sont donc actuellement retirés dans leur fort, autour du quel its ont élévé une espèce de glacis, qui les couvre entièrement. Pour n'être point étourdis par les cris des Femmes, ils les ont fait transportés à bord de leurs vaisseaux, qui sont prêts à faire voile au nombre de dix ou douze, y compris les Brigantines et barques. Ils ont aussi, dit-on, chargé dessus les trésors qui leur sont confiés, que l'on fait monter à deux crores.

CHANDERNAGORE; (Signé) LE CONTE.
19 Juin 1756.

No. 2.

TO—MONSR. COURTIN, DACCA.

Le Pattamar ayant retardé deux jours me donne le temps et l'occasion de vous faire part de la prise de Calcutta. Cet évènement auquel nous ne nous attendions pas en vérité, n'est malheureusement que trop certain : en voici les particularités que vous avons apprises.

Le 19^{e} au soir nous sûmes ici, par les blessés qui passèrent, qu'il y avoit eu une Sortie faite par les Anglois, dans laquelle ils avoient tué plus de 1,500 hommes ; mais, qu'ils s'étoient retirés avec préci pitation, et avoient été obligés d'enclouer les Canons de Campagne, qu'ils avaient emmenés. Malgré cet avantage, l'esprit de vertige et de trouble s'est tellement emparé d'eux qu'ils n'ont plus écouté le Commandement. Monsr. Drake s'était retiré des la veille ; Monsr. Holwell, qui s'est trouvé Commandant, n'a pas fait la moindre resistance ; les Maures, montés sur les maisons qui dominent le fort y ont établi tranquillement leur Batteries, et y ont fusillé à leur aise les Anglois, qui n'ont jamais osé riposter : on prétend qu'ils n'ont pas tiré dix coups de canon. Le peu d'ordre que régnoit faisoit qui les Soldats, maîtres des Magazins, étoient toujours ivres et incapables de service, enfin hier le feu ayant pris aux Magazins, les Soldats, au lieu de chercher à l'éteindre, ont pris l'épouvante, et se sont sauvés à bord des Vaisseaux pêle-mêle. Monsr. Holwell, voyant cette fuite, a écrit sur le champ au Nabob pour entrer en composition ; a hissé Pavillon Maure. A ce signal, les Maures, qui entouraient le Fort, croyant que leurs Camarades y étoient entrés, se sont jetés comme des perdus sur les murailles, et aux Portes qu'ils ont enfoncées : etc. Cet évènement qui s'est passé hier à trois heures après midi, et que nous n'avons appris qu'à onze heures le soir, a été accompagné de circonstances les plus tristes pour les Anglois, leur plus grand vaisseau chargé d'un monde étonnant a échoué sur un banc à côté de Calcutta, et y est encore; le Nabob a fait charger de paille une quantité de Bateaux, avec lesquelles il compte mettre le feu au vaisseau, s'il ne se rend pas etc.

LE CONTE.

Chandernagore, 21 Juin.

No. 3.

Extrait d'une lettre écrite de Chandernagor en date du 3 Juillet 1756 concernant les Suites de la Prise de Calcutta.

Nous avons à remplir icy à l'égard de plusieurs Anglois, entre autres Messrs. Watts et Collet, les mêmes devoirs que ceux dont vous vous êtes acquittés à Dakká. Ces deux derniers arrivèrent icy le 28 au soir, en Palanquin, mais du reste en assez mauvais équipage, quoique peu de jours après leur détention, le Nabob eût donné ordre de les traiter un peu mieux. Ils ont toujours été assujettis à une quantité d'ignominies. On leur a laissé à peine une partie de leur linge, et de leurs hardes. Lorsqu'ils passèrent auprès de Chinchurat en suivant le Nabob à son expédition de Calcutta, il firent demander quelques Secours à Monsr Besdom, qui, outre quelques rafraichissements, leur envoya 1,000 Rupees. Pour pouvoir retirer cet envoi des mains des Sangsues, qui les gardaient, ils fûrent obligés d'entrer en accommodement, et de sacrifier 600R de 1,000 pour sauver le reste. A la fin ils ont été relachés: le Nabob même les a recommandés à Monsr. Renault, avec injonction de les faire passer à la côte; on dit même que pour réparer le mal qu'il leur a fait, il a promis d'écrire en leur faveur au Conseil de Madras, en lui marquant l'insolente conduite des Anglois et de Monsr. Drake, ce qui l'avoit obligé à en venir avec eux aux derniéres extrémités, et à les chasser du Bengale. Je doute fort que cette protection serve beaucoup à Monsr. Watts, quoique, dans le fond, il soit bien moins coupable que Monsr. Drake. On ne peut tout au plus reprocher au premier que trop de foiblesse, et d'imprudence, au lieu que ce dernier est coupable, en outre, de Lacheté, de Friponnerie, et de la plus indigne Trahison que l'on puisse commettre, ayant préferé, ainsi que le commandant des troupes, et la plus grande partie du Conseil, leur sureté et celle de leurs biens au salut d'une quantité de femmes, d'honnêtes gens, et d'une foule de chrétiens. L'on sait à présent le détail de tout ce qui s'est passé dans ce triste événement, et les ressorts sécrets de toute cette affaire, que l'on ne peut regarder que comme une mystère d'iniquité—Il n'est plus douteux, à la façon dont se conduit Monsr. Drake, que son plan ne fût formé avec le Commandant des troupes et quelques Conseillers, et qu'ils n'eussent jugé, les uns et les autres, ces troubles un coup de parti, pour s'approprier une partie des richesses immenses qui leur étoient confiées. C'est dans cette vue que Monsr. Drake, au lieu d'entrer en accommodement avec le Nabob, n'avoit chercher qu'à le pousser a bout par les réponses les plus insolentes. Il auroit été bien fâché, sans doute, que les choses n'en fûssent pas venues là; mais, il est bien plus surprenant encore, qu'ayant pour objet la perte de Colonie, et sa retraite àbord des vaisseaux, il n'ait pas mieux songé à s'assurer ce dernier article, et qu'il n'ait mis àbord de ces Bâtimens ni eau ni vivres, ni matelots, ni même de lest, n'ayant uniquement songé qu'à leurs richesses, comme si en mer l'argent suppléait au reste; on prétend, en effet, qu'ils manquent de tout, et que les Conseillers virent au cabestan.

Avant que l'on sût ce qui s'étoit passé dans le fort, on ne comprenait pas comment les Maures s'en étoient rendus maîtres, et par que l'enchantement la ville avoit tourné aux Anglois à ce point là. Les mesures de Monsr. Drake étoient si bien prises, qu'il laissa dans la loge les 3 consseillers, qui lui étoient le plus opposés, Scavoir: Messrs. Holwell, Eyre et Baillie; il avoit choisi pour faire ce beau coup le moment d'une Sortie, qu'il avoit ordonnée dans le tems qu'il s'embarquait; une Foule de soldats et de peuple, se jetta pêle-mêle à l'eau et dans les Bateaux pour joindre les vaisseaux, ce à quoi fort peu réussirent, plusieurs ayant coulé avant d'arriver, ceux qui ont été témoins de ce tumulte, content avoir vu se noyer plus de deux cents personnes.

Après cette retraite, qui avoit occasionné une grande sédition, et pendant laquelle on tira quelques coups de Fusil sur Monsr. Drake, la consternation se mit dans ceux qui étoient restés. Les Soldats du détachement qui révenoit de son expédition, ne trouvant plus ni Gouverneur ni Commandant, se mutinèrent, enfoncèrent les Godons au vin, et s'en remplirent, le peu qui étoit capable de faire résistance, et de se laisser aller ainsi au désespoir, fit bonne contenance jusqu'au Jeudi; ce devoit être Dimanche que, voyant que le désordre continuoit, ils jugèrent à propos de se rendre. Le moment où les Maures s'emparèrent du Fort fut semblable à celui de la retraite. Bien de Personnes se noyèrent en cherchant asile à bord des Vaisseaux. Les 2 premiers jours se passèrent avec la licence et avec tous les désordres d'une Place prise d'assant, à l'exception du massacre auquel les Maures ne sont pas habitués envers ceux qui sont desarmés. Environ 160 Européens qui furent pris dans le Fort furent renfermés dans une chambre si petite qu'ils n'y pouvaient tenir que debout: dès la 1me nuit 132 y moururent étouffés par la chaleur: Monsr Eyre, Conseiller, que vous avez peut-être connu eut le même Sort le lendemain; Un Anglois que s'est sauvé de cet enfer rapporte un trait de Monsr Eyre, qui fait voir ce qu'ils avoient à souffrir; il dit que comme il ètoit extrèmmeent gras et replet, il n'avoit pas imaginé d'autre Soulagement, que de tirer son Pagne qui, ainsi qu'aux autres, étoit son unique vêtement, de le tirer, dis-je, tout imbibé de sueur, de le tordre, et d'en exprimer dans sa bouche ce qui en sortoit pour se désalterer; il n'est pas surprénant qu'il n'y ait pas tenu. Monsr. Baillie, l'autre Conseiller, a été tué, mais Monsr Holwell est sans doute le plus à plaindre, comme c'étoit lui qui exerçait la Jemindarie à Calcutta, les Maures lui en vouloient de loin; en conséquence, on lui donne la chabouque presque tous les jours, il l'on s'attend à apprendre à tout moment qu'il auroit succombé sous ce traitement. Lorsque le Nabob fit son entrée dans le Fort de Calcutta, il ne put revenir de sa surprise en voyant un tas si prodigieux de Canons, de Boulets, et autres munitions. Le premier article, en effet, monte à plus de 500, tout montés sur leurs affuts. Il fut frappé de la beauté du Gouvernement et le trouva digne d'être habité par des Princes, et non par des Marchands. En voyant le feu en une quantité d'endroits, et considérant le grand nombre de belles maisons, il ne put s'empêcher de dire, en parlant des Anglois, qu'il falloit que ces gens-la fûssent bien fous pour l'avoir obligé de les forcer à abandonner une si grande ville. Sur le champ il donna ordre de détruire le Gouvernement, en haine de Monsr Drake, à qui il s'imaginait qu'il appertenait en propre; mais, le reste fut conservé et le feu éteint. Il fut même demeuré dans la belle maison de Monsr Wedderburn, et il fit publier un ordre après quelques tems, à tous les Chrétiens et Gentils, de retourner habiter leur maisons dans trois jours sous peine de les perdre. Quelques-uns ont obéi, et il ne leur a fait aucun mal; la plus grande partie n'a pas osé, et est dans notre Aldée. Ils ont eu d'autant plus de raison de ne se point prêter à cet invitation, que le Nabob, depuis quelques jours, a changé d'avis on ne sait sous quel pretexte; et qu'il a envoyé 2,000 Pioniers pour détruire et raser toute la Colonie, ne voulant pas, dit-il, qu'il y reste pierre sur pierre. Le Saussedar passa même hier au soir pour aller hâter l'ouvrage par sa présence. On disoit icy, d'abord, que c'étoit en revanche des désordres que commettoient les Anglois au bas de la Rivière, où ils bruloient et ravagoient toutes les Aldées; mais on a su depuis que cette nouvelle étoit fausse, ainsi que celle de l'arrivée de deux de leurs vaisseaux de guerre que l'on dit tous le jours être arrivés, et qui n'apparaissent jamais le lendemain.

Par ma dernière lettre, j'avois l'honneur de vous marquer, je crois, que les Anglois étoient encore avec leurs Vaisseaux un peu au dessous de Calcutta; qu'après avoir abandonné cinq Vaisseaux sous leur Fort, et perdu un sur un Banc, ils étoient assez embarassés pour passer Maconatana (Tanners Fort), où les Maures avoient dressé des Batteries, ils ont depuis franchi ce pas assez aisément, mais à hauteur de Bougi Bouge, où on les attendoit avec beaucoup de Cayetoques, ils ont perdu deux de leur vaisseuax, qui ont echoué, et se sont entr'ouverts: tout le monde, dont le nombre était considérable, surtout en femmes, parmi lesquelles s'est trouvée la nièce de Mons. X., a été pris. ⊥ Finnalement on n'a fait de mal à personne; mais, le Gemidar de l'endroit n'a voulu les relâcher, qu'à condition qu'on lui donneroit Rs. 25 par tête; on a su depuis que les Anglois les avoient rachetés, et qu'ils avoient rejoint les vaisseaux. Les maures ont trouvé sur ces vaisseaux une grande quantité d'argenterie, surtout celle de la Compagnie, et trois caisses d'argent. Notre vaisseau le Silhoueti ne sachant rien de la guerre des Anglois a été fort surpris en passant devant Maconatana de se voir tirer une grande quantité de coups de sayetoques; la force de la marée l'empêchant de mouiller là, il a jeté l'ancre audessus de cette Forteresse; les Anglois, qui n'étoient pas encore passé en ce tems-là, sont venus à bord,—du moins quelques-uns de la connoissance de Monsr. Chambon. Ils lui ont appris de quoy il étoit question, et n'ont pu empêcher de convenir qu'ils s'étoient couverts de honte par la lâcheté avec laquelle ils s'étoient enfuis, mais, en même tems, pour engager le Capitaine à riposter sur les Maures en cas que l'on tirât de nouveau sur lui, ils lui ont déclaré que nous étions aussi fourrés dans cette affaire, et que le Nabob voulait aussi nous chasser de Chandernagore. Il n'est pas difficile de découvrir l'intention d'un rapport aussi infidèle. Monsr. Chambon, avant de se déterminer, a expédié à Monsr. Renault, qui lui a envoyé ordre de prendre garde ne pas à donner le moindre ombrage aux Maures. En effet, il a été obligé d'envoyer, pendant la nuit, quelques rafraîchissemens que les Anglois lui avoient demandés. Après la ruine de Calcutta nous avons eu, ainsi que les Hollandois, notre tour pour la peur, non pas à la vérité autant que les Anglois, mais peu s'en faut. L'armée du Nabob a presque toute défilé au travers de notre Aldée, insultant tout le monde dans les rues, y commettant mille violences, en levant les domestiques et bairas pour porter leur butin, accablant de coups des gens du Port pour avoir des bateaux, enfin, que vous dirais-je? les choses ont été vingt fois sur le point d'être portées à l'extrémité. Pour nous achever, le Nabob s'étant rendu à Houghly le 25 a mis à contribution les deux Nations. Les Hollandois lui ont payé 4 lacs et demi, et nous, malgré le frémissement général de tout le monde, tant employés et particuliers que soldats et matelots, malgré notre nombre de 300 blancs, et l'envie de venger l'honneur du nom Européen, nous nous sommes soumis à payer, dit-on, 3 lacs; il faut croire que l'interest du Petit Comptoir n'a pas contribué à déterminer Messrs. du Conseil, dont les lumières, plus étendues que celles de nous autres jeunes gens, sont plus assortis de juger des avantages et des désavantages de notre resistance. A l'égard de la Loge, je ne crois pas qu'on ait eu la moindre crainte, et qu'il étoit aise de voir, par l'ardeur que tout le monde temoignoit, combien elle êtoit en sûreté. Mais il n'en est pas moins vrai qu'avec les Petits Comptoirs, il eût été bien difficile de défendre la Colonie, dont la destruction eût ruiné tous les marchands, etc. Les capitaines de ces vaisseaux qui se sont échoués à Bouji Bouji, arrivoient hier icy. Ils ont été suivis par une quantité d'autres de tous états, (* *) que le Nabob permet que nous retirions. Il a même fait dire qu'il nous enerrsit tous ceux dont il s'empareroit. Ainsi, nous nous attendons à voir bientôt ceux de Dakka.

Exd.—P. K. B.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 152 F. D.—13-7-92.—500.

Public Despatches to England, 1755-1756, Genl No. 22,

To—the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

HONOURABLE,

* * * * *

20. We had resolved to return the *Delawar* to you in July last with about two hundred Tons of Saltpetre, the remains of her Cargo in Bales, and accordingly her loading was far advanced when on the 13th of that month we received the unexpected advices from the President and Council of Fort William that Nabob Sirajud Dowlah, the Grandson and successor of Alliverdi Khan, the old Subah of Bengal, who died some months before, had possessed himself of your Fort and Factory at Cossimbazar; Whatever might be his real motives for this conduct, his pretended ones are thus related. The Gentlemen at Calcutta upon advice from us of the critical situation of Affairs between our Nation and the French having thought it necessary to repair and strengthen the Line of Guns towards the River, The President, Mr. Drake, shortly after received a Perwannah from the Nabob signifying that he had been informed they were about fortifying Calcutta with a Wall and a Ditch which he disapproved, and insisted on their destroying the works and filling up the Ditch. In answer to this Purwannah Mr. Drake wrote the Nabob that he had been misinformed in regard to the Works carrying on at Calcutta, for they had dug no ditch since the Invasion of the Morattas, and were only repairing their Wharf towards the River which had received considerable damage. Upon receipt of this letter the Nabob expressed great anger and immediately gave orders for Investing Cossimbazar, against which place he accomplished his designs in the following manner as we are informed by Messrs Watts and Collett, the Chief and Second of that Settlement. The Nabob upon receipt of the abovementioned Letter immediately ordered a Guard up the Factory of four hundred Horse which he daily increased untill the place was surrounded by his whole Army consisting upon a moderate Computation of 10,000 Horse, and 20,000 Ragepout Gun-Men with a large Train of Artillery, and then demanded that Mr Watts should go out to him, his Duan at the same time assuring Mr Watts that he might go out of the Fort with safety, that no harm should happen to him and that he would introduce him to the Nabob. Upon these assurances, and it having been always a custom in Bengal for the Chiefs of the Subordinates to visit the Nabobs on such occasions, the Gentlemen of the Factory were unanimously of opinion that the Chief should go out; he accordingly went and was introduced to the Nabob, who immediately ordered him into confinement and insisted on his giving an Obligation that in fifteen days time the Gentlemen of Calcutta should level what new works they had raised, deliver up the Nabob's Tenants who had fled for protection there, and that if it could be proved the Company's Dustucks had been falsified by granting them to those who had no right to them, all the loss the Government had sustained thereby should be repaid. This obligation the Chief being in their hands was obliged to sign, but as they did not esteem his signing alone sufficiently binding, they insisted that the rest of the Council should sign it also, upon which the Surgeon of the Factory who had accompanied the Chief was sent to Messrs Collett and Batson in the Factory to acquaint them that it was necessary they should go out to the Chief to put an end to the affair; Mr. Watts avers that he told the Surgeon to acquaint Messrs Collett and Batson that he did not think it advisable for them to leave the Fort, whether he Mr Watts or delivered the message does not appear to us, but Messrs Collett and Batson did go and were also detained by the Nabob as Prisoners. The next day the Cannon and Ammunition were delivered up to the Nabob, and he took possession of the Fort without opposition; and having ordered all the Company's Effects to be carefully sealed up, Mr Batson was sent back to the Factory, but Messrs Watts and Collett kept Prisoners in the Camp and the Garrison of Cossimbazar sent to Muxadabad, the Nabob's Capital. The easy acquisition of this Settle-

ment no doubt inspired the Nabob with sanguine Notions of greater Conquests which possibly might be facilitated by the Artillery, Ammunition, and Warlike Stores he found there. The news of the loss of this Settlement reached us the 13th July at a time when we had just been alarmed by the arrival of a Sloop from the French Islands with the intelligence of a large Armament from France intended for these parts, so that we did not think it safe any of the Ships of Force belonging to the Squadron should leave the Coast, and as it appeared necessary that a reinforcement should be immediately sent down to the Gentlemen of Calcutta, agreeable to the pressing request they made us for the protection of that Settlement, We had no means of Transporting a sufficient number of men and Stores, but by one of your China Ships which were then lying in the Road, or the *Delawar*, the latter appeared by far the more eligible. We accordingly immediately set about landing the Bales that had been already sent on board her with part of the Salt Petre, which being compleated as well as the embarkation of the Stores and Troops for Bengal consisting of two complete Companies of Europeans under the command of Major Kilpatrick with two good Train Officers and some Field Pieces, Captain Winter received his Dispatches and sailed the 20th July. We had entertained hopes that the heavy rains which begin at that season of the year would have prevented the Nabob from making any immediate attack upon Calcutta, or would have rendered such an attempt fruitless, in which case we did and do believe that such a reinforcement under the Command of such an experienced Officer would have been sufficient to protect Calcutta in case of further attempts; yet some time after receiving another letter from the Gentlemen at Bengal pressing us in the strongest manner to send them at least five hundred men, we resolved, (altho' our own apprehensions of danger here were not quite dissipated) to send them a further reinforcement of one hundred and fifty men on the *Bridgwater*, twenty-Gun Ship, which Admiral Watson at our request consented to spare from the Squadron for this service. But on the 16[illegible] of August when the Troops were on the point of embarking, we received a letter from Messrs Watts and Collet (whom the Nabob had set at liberty and sent to Candernagore) acquainting us of the loss of Calcutta; The manner of its attack and defence has not yet been transmitted to the President and Council; we have indeed some particulars from other hands, the substance of which is, that after the surrender of Cossimbazar on the 4th of June, the Nabob immediately set forward with his whole Army for Calcutta, and on the 17th June began the attack upon the advanced Posts which were defended for some time, but the People being overpowered by numbers were drove from them one by one, so that by the 18th. at night the Nabob was in possession of them all, and our parties retired into the Fort and the houses which almost adjoin and overlook its walls; These being attacked the morning of the 19th, the parties were withdrawn into the Fort. It is said that a Consultation was held in the night of the 18th in which it was the general opinion that the place was not tenable, but it does not appear that any means whatever were then concerted for a retreat. Messrs. Manningham and Frankland were sent the evening of the 18th to conduct the European Ladies on board the Ships in the River. The 19th in the forenoon Mr Drake quitted the Fort which threw the Garrison into such disorder that all who could save themselves by a precipitate flight, the rest having no other resourse shut themselves up in the Fort, amongst whom were Messrs Pearkes, Holwell, Eyre, and Bailie of Council. Many others of the Civil servants below Council, and most of the Military Officers, but what number of Military and others we do not know, but guess about two hundred in all. These having chosen Mr Holwell for their Chief defended the Fort till the afternoon of the next day, altho' they were very much galled by the Enemy's fire from the adjacent houses. The besieged being by this time much fatigued hoisted a flag of Truce hoping thereby to gain a little respite; some accounts say the Nabob consented to a Truce but suddenly broke it and scaled the Walls; others tell us that whilst the besieged were in parley with the Enemy, one of the Gates was betrayed to the Nabob, be that as it may, the besieged found themselves overpowered when they least expected it. In the first confusion two or three of the Company's servants and some others got their Liberty, the rest were altogether to the number of 146 persons thrust into a godown, where for want of air, 123 of them miserably perished in one night: Mr Holwell being one of those who survived, was the next day put in Irons and sent to Muxadabad with Mr. Court and some others. After this success your Factory at Dacca was summoned to surrender to the Nabob, and your servants there write us that finding they could expect no relief from any quarter Calcutta being lost and that all the resistance they could make would be therefore vain, they delivered up the Gentlemen and Effects to the Nabob's Officers on the 28th of June, having first obtained permission to retire on their Paroles to the French Factory. Your Servants at Luckipore and Ballasore were somewhat more fortunate, having made their escape with effects to the value of, the first about sixty thousand, the second about four thousand Rupees; But we cannot hitherto learn that the least thing has been saved from Calcutta on your account, not even the Books and Papers, so precipitate and irregular was the flight, that many of those who escaped we hear are even destitute of necessary cloathing on board the ships, which by the last accounts remained in the River off Fulta. After the capture of Calcutta the Nabob turned his thoughts to our neighbours, the French at Chandernagore and the Dutch at Hughly, demanding large sums of money of them, and threatening destruction in case of failure, but whether thro' better policy or better fortune they found means to appease him and have purchased a present Peace, the Dutch for four lacks and an half; the French for three lacks of Sicca Rupees. Whether the Nabob had from the beginning determined on the total expulsion of the English and if so what could have given him cause for such a Resolution, or whether Affairs might not have been accommodated by the way of Negociation and a sum of money, are subjects we leave to be treated of when we are better acquainted with facts, at present we can only say that the Nabob has made heavy complaints of the fradulent use of dustucks and that persons have been protected who had accounts to settle with the Government. It remains now that we inform Your Honours of the steps we have taken towards recovering Your Rights. On the first intelligence of the loss of Calcutta, judging how much your affairs at home must be effected by the receit of such News only, we thought that if it were possible to give you at the same time advice of the retaking of that Settlement, the ill effects of the first might in some measure be prevented, we therefore requested of Admiral Watson to spare the Fifty and Twenty Gun Ships on which we intended to have embarked about two hundred and forty Europeans with a proper Train, and these joined to the Detachment before sent on the *Delawar* we judged might have formed a body sufficient to retake Calcutta. But on reflecting that the expence of the Expedition would be certain, that the bare possession of the Walls of Calcutta, or perhaps only the ground whereon those Walls stood (for we were not then certain whether the Nabob had not demolished them) could be of little use, that the Nabob being a Young Man of impetuous temper, cruel, obstinate, big with new Honours, immense riches, and unexpected success; surrounded in his Darbar with Men of the same disposition, little could be expected from him but what might be acquired by the force of Arms. And therefore that to bring him to any advantageous terms, a Force would be necessary not only to retake Calcutta but also reduce Hughley and even attempt his Capital of Muxadabad, or face him in the Field untill he consent to reinstate you in all your Priviledges of Trade. At the same time receiving letters from the President and Council acquainting us that they had deputed Mr Manningham to lay before us a full state of affairs and requesting a much larger Force than we thought it prudent at that time to spare, All these considerations induced us to alter that plan and resolve to send down at once a Force sufficient for the abovementioned purposes, but as we judged it would have been imprudent at that time to part with so large a part of our Military considering the critical state of affairs in Europe at the departure of your China Ships, we determined therefore to wait the arrival of the Coast and Bay Ships (which Ships we wanted also for Transports) and in the mean time to prepare every thing for the intended Expedition. We communicated our intention to Admiral Watson, and requested that in case upon receipt of the then expected advices from England it should not appear necessary to desist from attempting the recovery of your Settlements in Bengal he would proceed down with the whole Squadron, to which he readily consented and preparations were accordingly made for embarking His Majesty's whole Regiment and Train, having requested of Col. Adlercron to undertake this Expedition. Upon the arrival of the *Chesterfield* and *Walpole* from England as we found that war had not been declared with France and the season being then so far advanced as to leave us but little room to apprehend any danger from the French here even should they receive a large reinforcement as their Troops would in all probability not be able to undertake anything of consequence 'till January, We resolved therefore to undertake the Expedition, with this alteration, that instead of employing His Majesty's Troops in it, we judged it more for your interest to send your own under the Command of Lieut.-Col. Clive who readily offered his services on this occasion. We beg leave at present to deferr giving you all the reasons which weighed with us first to request the King's Land Forces to proceed on the Expedition and then to resolve on sending your own. These as well as the many difficulties that have occurred in every measure we have concerted will fully appear to you by our Consultions which shall wait on you by the *Chesterfield*. Thus far the advices received, and measures taken in regard to your Affairs in Bengal have fallen under the direction of the whole Board. But your Honours having been pleased in a letter to the Secret Committee received by the *Chesterfield* and *Walpole* to direct that they are to correspond and act in concert with a Secret Commitee at Bengal for the general and particular protection of your Trade, Rights, and Possessions; from the receipt of that Letter all further measures concerning the Expedition for the recovery of your Rights have accordingly been concerted by the said Committee to whom therefore we beg leave to refer for Particulars.

We are,

HONOURABLE,

Your faithful humble Servats,

GEORGE PIGOT.

ROBERT CLIVE.

STRINGER LAWRANCE.

HENRY POWNEY.

ROBERT ORME.

WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

FORT ST. GEORGE, JOHN SMITH.

13th Octr 1756. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

To—The Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

HONOURABLE,

* * * * * * *

9. *28th March 1756.*—* * * * *

Your Ship *Prince George* was agreeable to our directions sent to Bengal, where, we are sorry to say, she met no better fate than the rest of your Property there: After the Governor had left the Fort, the Gentlemen who remained in it thought that ship might be of some assistance, and therefore ordered her to be brought up to the Fort, and it was accordingly attempted, but in the hurry and confusion being run aground, she was seized and burnt by the Moors.

* * * * * * *

Fourthly of Country Government, and therein of the Trade of India and Transactions with the French, Dutch, &c.

46. Having given your Honours a full account in our address of the 13th October of our Transactions in regard to the troubles in Bengall, we have only to beg your Honours will be pleased to be referred for a more explicit account of our motives and Resolutions to the Minutes of Consultation which we had extracted so far as they relate to the Bengall Affairs that they may be laid before you distinct from other business.

* * * * * * *

74. *26th March 1756.*—Mr Clive arrived from Bombay the 25th May, and took his seat at the Board as Second in Council, and shortly after proceeded to Fort St David to take upon him the Deputy Government of that Settlement agreeable to your Appointment, his presence being necessary at the Presidency on account of the Expedition we were setting on foot for Bengal, he returned here in August, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Land Forces sent on that Expedition being committed to him, he accordingly proceeded to Bengal with the Squadron, the 16th October.

* * * * * * *

83. *19th August 1756.*—Mr Starke having delivered over the charge of the Settlement of Fort St David to Mr Clive returned to the Presidency in August, and shortly after his arrival addressed a Letter to the Board signifying that as your Honours had been pleased to superseed him by appointing Col. Clive to the Deputy Government of Fort St David he imagined his conduct had not been so satisfactory as he wished to make it, and therefore requested leave to resign the service.

* * * * * * *

97. As soon as possible after the receit of your orders intended by the *Dodington* the two Artillery Companies were regulated in the manner you have therein directed. The Officers appointed to them were —

First Company.

Lewis D'Illens	Captain	......
Benjamin Godwin	Capt. Lieut.	promoted from 1st Lieut.
John Dickinson	1st Lieut.	Do. from 1st Lieut. of 2nd Com.
William Jennings	2nd Lieut.	promoted from Fireworker.
Nicholas Bonjour John Francis Baillard	Fireworkers.	
Thomas Ford	......	promoted from Volunteers.

Second Company.

John Brohier	Captain	......
Robert Barker	Captn. Lieut.	promtd from 2nd Lt. of 1st Co.
John Francis Paschoud	1st Lieut	Do. from 2nd Lt. of 2nd Com.
John Charles Erdman	2nd do.	Do. from Fireworkers.
Jonathan Brooke Lewis Contadie	Fireworkers	Do. from Volunteer.
John Elly	......	Do. from Serjt. in the Train.

98. The promotions in your Military since our last by the *East Court* are—

Mr William Pye (who came out in 1752 as a Volunteer with your recommendation to be promoted according to his merit) promoted to a Company.

Lieut. Achilles Preston	promoted to a Company.	
Lieut. Richard Smith	Do.	
Ensign John Wood	Do. to a Lieutenancy.	
James Oglivie	Do.	Do.
Bryan Scotney	Do.	Do.
Volunteer Stephen Smith	Do. to a Pr. of Colours.	
John Darke	Do.	Do.
Roderick Orton	Do.	Do.

Ross Lang	promoted to a Pr. of Colours.
Alexr Tuite	Do. Do.
Willm Robson	Do. Do.
Norris Bowyer	Do. Do.
William Brown George Nicholas de Lubbers	these two arrived this season with Brevets for Bengal.

Swiss Companies.

Ensign Charles Earnest Jaeger	promoted to 2nd Lt. of Gaupps.
Volunteer John Heny Oswald	Do. to Ensign of do.

99. The deaths and resignations in your Military and Artillery since our last are—

Major James Kilpatrick	Resigned 1st June.
Captn Willm Lee	died 15th July 1756.
James Spears	Resigned.
Capt. Lieut. Benjamin Godwin of the Train	died at Bengal.
Lieut. Stephen Augustus de Monchaniu	Resigned.
John North	died at Negrais 30th August 1756.
Claud Philip Sullin of Gaupps	died 18th Apl. 1756.
Lieut. Samuel Sampson	died at Bengal.
Henry Tripsack	Resigned and since died.
John Charles Erdman of the Train	died at Bengal.
Ensign John Vonga	died at Bengal.
John Darke	died the
Thomas Stevenson	died the

100. *14th July 1756.*—Altho' Major Kilpatrick had resigned, intending to have taken his passage to England on the *Delawar*, yet upon receiving the News of the loss of Cossimbazar, we looked upon him as the properest person to serve you in the Command of the Detachment we were then sending down; We no sooner proposed it to him, but he with the greatest chearfulness declared himself ready and willing to serve you whereever it might be thought necessary. Since his departure for Bengal we have received and forwarded to him the Commission you have been pleased to grant him as Major of Bengal.

101. When we had under consideration the sending down the above Detachment, Col. Lawrance desirous of exerting himself whereever the service may require offered to take the Command of it, but when we considered the unhealthyness of the Bengal climate at that season, his time of life and state of health we thought the chance of his surviving it greatly against him and therefore desired he would wave his Motion; He again offered his service when the Grand Expedition was on foot, but for the same reasons added to others which will appear on our Minutes of Consultation we desired he would decline it, and in case of a War with France, he is to take the Command in your Garrison of Fort St David during Col. Clive's absence.

102. *Consultation 5th July 1756.*—Agreeable to your Orders the Swiss Companies are incorporated with the English.

103. Captain Polier being here, the Commission you were pleased to send out has been delivered him.

* * * * * * *

110. *Consultation 20th April 1756*—Upon a representation from the President that it having occurred to him, that if the Seapoys in your service could be prevailed on to wear an Uniform of Europe Cloth, it would at once give them a more Martial Appearance and take off a considerable quantity of Woollen goods, offering at the same time to take upon himself to introduce this Clothing amongst them, We very readily committed to His Management, and have the

pleasure to acquaint you they have taken off upwards of thirty-nine Bales of your Broad Cloth.

* * * * * * *

FORT S^T GEORGE,
The 21st Novr 1756.

We are
HONOURABLE
Your faithfull humble servants,

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLIAM PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER

To—The Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

HONOURABLE,

Fourthly of Country Government and therein of the trade of India and Transactions with the French, Dutch, &c.

* * * * * * *

21. On the 16th of last month we had the inexpressible pleasure to receive the news from Bengal of the fortunate and surprising Revolution in the Government of that Province, by which as the Gentlemen there acquaint us, great advantages are already reaped, and prospect laid open of a large harvest in the increase of your Trade and Revenue. The particulars of this great change will, we suppose, be communicated to your Honours by the Select Committee, but we cannot pass over a subject so interesting to the Company without expressing something of the satisfaction we receive from that fortunate Event.

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Sixthly of Covenant and Military Servants and their Accounts.

25. Upon the loss of your Northern Settlements your servants there became Prisoners of War upon their Paroles, some are arrived here, and the rest gone to Bengal, but are expected up in January. Mr. Perceval and Mr. Andrews are of the number of those at Bengal, the former has transmitted us from thence a Narrative of the surrender of Vizagapatam, a Copy of which we forward in the Packet.

FORT S^T GEORGE,
15th Novr 1757.

We are,
HONOURABLE,
Your faithfull humble servts.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 868 F. D.—23-8-92.—500.

Extract from General Letter to England from Fort St. George, dated 13th October 1756.

We had resolved to return the *Delawar* to you in July last with about two hundred tons of saltpetre, the remainder of her Cargoe in Bales, and accordingly her loading was far advanced when the 13th of that month We received the unexpected Advices from the President and Council of Fort William that Nabob Seerajet Dowlah, the grandson and successor of Alliverde Khan, the old Subah of Bengal, who died some months before, had possesed himself of your Fort and Factory at Cossumbazar; Whatever might be his real Motives for this Conduct, his pretended ones are thus related. The Gentlemen at Calcutta upon Advices from us of the Critical Situation of Affairs between our Nation and the French having thought it necessary to repair and strengthen the Line of Guns towards the River, the President Mr. Drake shortly after received a Perwannah from the Nabob signifying that he had been informed they were about fortifying Calcutta with a Wall and a Ditch which he disapproved and insisted on their destroying the Works and filling up the Ditch. In answer to this Perwannah Mr. Drake wrote the Nabob that he had been misinformed in regard to the Work carrying on at Calcutta, for they had dug no Ditch since the Invasion of the Morattoes and were only repairing their Wharf towards the River which had received considerable damage. Upon receipt of this letter the Nabob expressed great Anger and immediately gave Orders for investing Cossumbazar, against which Place he accomplished his Designs in the following manner, as we are informed by Messrs. Watts and Collett, the Chief and Second of that Settlement. The Nabob upon receipt of the above-mentioned Letter immediately ordered a Guard upon the Factory of four hundred Horse which he daily increased until the Place was surrounded by his whole Army consisting upon a moderate computation of 10,000 Horse, and 20,000 Ragepout Gun Men with a large Train of Artillery, and then demanded that Mr. Watts should go out to him, his Duan at the same time assuring Mr. Watts that he might go out of the Fort with safety, that no harm should happen to him, and that he would introduce him to the Nabob. Upon these Assurances, and it having been always a Custom in Bengal for the Chiefs of the subordinates to visit the Nabobs on such occasions, the Gentlemen of the Factory were unanimously of opinion that the Chief should go out, he accordingly went, and was introduced to the Nabob, who immediately ordered him into Confinement, and insisted on his giving an obligation that in fifteen days' time the Gentlemen of Calcutta should level what new Works they had raised, deliver up the Nabob's Tenants who had fled for protection there, and that if it could be proved the Company's Dusticks had been falsified by granting them to those who had no right to them, all the Loss the Government had sustained thereby should be repaid. This Obligation the Chief, being in their hands, was obliged to sign; but as they did not esteem his signing alone sufficiently binding, they insisted that the rest of the Council should sign it also, upon which the Surgeon of the Factory, who had accompanied the Chief, was sent to Messrs. Collet and Batson in the Factory to acquaint them that it was necessary they should go out to the Chief to put an end to the Affair: Mr. Watts avers that he told the Surgeon to acquaint Messrs. Collet and Batson that he did not think it adviseable for them to leave the Fort, whether he——— —Mr. Watts or delivered the Messuage does not appear to us, but————Messrs. Collet and Batson did go, and were also detained by the Nabab as Prisoners. The next day the Cannon and Ammunition were delivered up to the Nabob, and he took possession of the Fort without opposition; and having ordered all the Company's Effects to be carefully sealed up, Mr. Batson was sent back to the

Factory, but Messrs. Watts and Collett kept Prisoners in the Camp, and the Garrison of Cossumbazar sent to Muxadabad, the Nabob's Capital. The easy acquisition of this Settlement no doubt inspired the Nabob with sanguine notions of greater Conquests, which possibly might be facilitated by the Artillery, Ammunition, and Warlike Stores he found there. The News of the loss of this Settlement reached us the 13th July at a time when we had just been alarmed by the arrival of a Sloop from the French Islands with the Intelligence of a large Armament from France intended for these Parts, so that we did not think it safe any of the Ships of Force belonging to the Squadron should leave the Coast; and as it appeared necessary that a Reinforcement should be immediately sent down to the Gentlemen of Calcutta, agreeable to the pressing Request they made us for the protection of that Settlement, we had no means of Transporting a sufficient number of Men and Stores, but by one of your China Ships which were then lying in the Road, or the *Delawar*, the latter appeared by far the more eligible; we accordingly immediately set about landing the Bales that had been already sent on board her, with part of the Saltpetre, which being compleated as well as the Embarkation of the Stores and Troops for Bengal, consisting of two compleate Companies of Europeans under the Command of Major Kilpatrick, with two good Train Officers and some Field Pieces, Captain Winter received his Dispatches and sailed the 20th July. We had entertained hopes that the heavy Rains which begin at that Season of the Year would have prevented the Nabob from making any immediate attack upon Calcutta or would have rendered such an attempt fruitless, in which case we did and do believe that such a Reinforcement under the Command of such an experienced Officer would have been sufficient to protect Calcutta in case of further attempts; yet some time after receiving another Letter from the Gentlemen at Bengal pressing us in the strongest manner to send them at least five hundred Men, we resolved (although our own apprehensions of Danger here were not quite dissipated) to send them a further Reinforcement of one hundred and fifty men on the *Bridgwater*, Twenty-gun ship, which Admiral Watson at our request consented to spare from the Squadron for this service. But on the 16th of August when the Troops were on the point of embarking, we received a Letter from Messrs. Watts and Colles (whom the Nabob had set at liberty and sent to Chandernagore) acquainting us of the loss of Calcutta. The manner of its Attack and Defence has not yet been transmitted to the President and Council; we have indeed some particulars from other hands, the substance of which is, that after the surrender of Cossumbazar on the 4th of June the Nabob immediately set forward with his whole Army for Calcutta, and, on the 17th June, began the Attack upon the advanced Posts, which were defended for some time, but the People being overpowered by numbers were drove from them one by one, so that by the 18th at night the Nabob was in possession of them all, and our Parties retired into the Fort, and the Houses which almost adjoin and overlook its Walls, these being attacked the morning of the 19th the Parties were withdrawn into the Fort. It is said that a Consultation was held in the night of the 18th, in which it was the general opinion that the Place was not tenable, but it does not appear that any means whatever were then concerted for a Retreat. Messrs. Manningham and Frankland were sent the evening of the 18th to conduct the European Ladies on board the Ships in the River. The 19th in the forenoon Mr. Drake quitted the Fort, which threw the Garrison into such disorder that all who could saved themselves by a precipitte flight, the rest having no other resourse shut themselves up in the Fort, amongst whom were Messrs. Pearkes, Holwell, Eyre, and Bailie of Council many others of the Civil Servants below Council, and most of the Military Officers, but what number of Military and others we do not know, but guess about two hundred in all: these having chosen Mr. Holwell for their Chief defended the fort till the afternoon of the next day, although they were very much galled by the Enemy's Fire from the adjacent Houses, the Besieged being by this time much fatigued, hoisted a Flag of Truce, hoping thereby to gain a little respite. Some accounts say the Nabob consented to a Truce but suddenly broke it and scaled the Walls. Others tell us that whilst the Besieged were in parley with the Enemy, one of the Gates was betrayed to the Nabob; be that as it may, the Besieged found themselves overpowered when they least expected it. In the first confusion two or three of the Company's Servants and some others got their liberty, the rest were altogether to the number of 146 persons thurst into a Godown, where for want of Air, 123 of them miserable perished in one Night. Mr. Holwell being one of those who survived was the next day put in Irons and sent to Muxadabad with Mr. Court and some others. After this success your Factory at Dacca was summoned to surrender to the Nabob; and your servants there write us that finding they could expect no relief from any quarter, Calcutta being lost, and that all the Resistance they could make would be therefore vain, they delivered up the Settlement and Effects to the Nabob's Officers on the 28th of June, having first obtained permission to retire on their Paroles to the French Factory. Your servants at Luckipore and Ballasore were somewhat more fortunate, having made their escape with effects to the value of, the first about sixty thousand, the second about four thousand rupees; but we cannot hitherto learn that the least thing has been saved from Calcutta, your Account, not even the Books and Papers; so precipitate and irregular was the Flight that many of those who escaped we hear are even destitute of necessary Clothing on board the Ships, which by the last accounts remained in the river off of Fulta. After the capture of Calcutta the Nabob turned his thoughts to our neighbours, the French at Chandernagore, and the Dutch at Hugly, demanding large sums of money of them, and threatening Destruction in case of Failure, but whether through better Policy or better Fortune they found means to appease him, and have purchased a present Peace, the Dutch for four lacks and a half, the French for three lacks of sicca rupees. Whether the Nabob had from the beginning determined on the total expulsion of the English, and, if so, what could have given him cause for such a Resolution, or whether affairs might not have been accommodated by the way of negociation and a sum of money, are subjects that we leave to be treated of when we are better acquainted with facts. At present we can only say that the Nabob has made heavy complaints of the fraudulent use of Dusticks, and that persons have been protected who had accounts to settle with the Government. It remains now that we inform Your Honours of the Steps we have taken towards recovering your Rights. On the first Intelligence of the loss of Calcutta, judging how much your affairs at Home must be affected by the receipt of such News only we thought that if it were posible to give you at the same time advice of the retaking of that Settlement, the ill effects of the first might in some measure be prevented, we therefore requested of Admiral Watson to spare the fifty and twenty gun ships, on which we intended to have embarked about two hundred and forty Europeans with a proper train, and these joined to the Detachment before sent on the *Delawar* we judged might have formed a body sufficient to retake Calcutta. But on reflecting that the Expence of the Expedition would be certain, that the bare possession of the Walls of Calcutta, or perhaps only the ground whereon those walls stood (for we were not then certain whether the Nabab had not demolished them) could be of little use, that the Nabob being a young man of an impetuous temper, cruel, obstinate, big with new Honours, immense Riches, and unexpected Success, surrounded in his Durbar with men of the same disposition, little could be expected from him but what might be acquired by the force of Arms; and therefore that to bring him to any advantageous Terms a Force would be necessary not only to retake Calcutta but also to reduce Hugly and even attempt his Capital of Muxadabad, or face him in the Field until he consent to reinstate you in all your

Priviledges of Trade; at the same time receiving Letters from the President and Council, acquainting us that they had deputed Mr. Manningham to lay before us a full state of Affairs, and requesting a much larger Force than we thought it prudent at that time to spare. All these considerations induced us to alter that Plan and resolve to send down at once a Force sufficient for the abovementioned purposes; but as we judged it would have been imprudent at that time to part with so large a part of our Military, considering the critical state of Affairs in Europe and the departure of your China ships, we determined therefore to wait the arrival of the Coast and Bay Ships (which Ships we wanted also for Transports), and in the meantime to prepare everything for the intended expedition. We communicated our intention to Admiral Watson and requested that in case upon receipt of the then expected Advices from England it should not appear necessary to desist from attempting the recovery of your Settlements in Bengal, he would proceed down with the whole Squadron, to which he readily consented, and preparations were accordingly made for embarking His Majesty's whole Regiment and Train, having requested of Colonel Aldercron to undertake this Expedition. Upon the arrival of the *Chesterfield* and *Walpole* from England, as we found that war had not been declared with France, and the season being then so far advanced as to leave us but little room to apprehend any danger from the French here, even should they receive a large Reinforcement, as their troops would in all probability not be able to undertake anything of consequence till January, we resolved therefore to undertake the Expedition, with this alteration, that instead of employing His Majesty's Troops in it, we judged it more for your interest to send your own under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel Clive, who readily offered his services on this occasion. We beg leave at present to defer giving you all the reasons which weighed with us, first, to request the King's land forces to proceed on the expedition and then to resolve on sending your own; these as well as the many difficulties that have occurred in every measure we have concerted will fully appear to you by our Consultations which shall wait on you by the *Chesterfield*. Thus far the Advices received, and Measures taken in regard to your Affairs in Bengal have fallen under the Direction of the whole Board; but Your Honours having been pleased in a letter to the Secret Committee received by the *Chesterfield* and *Walpole* to direct that they are to Correspond and act in Concert with a Secret Committee at Bengal for the general and particular protection of your Trade, Rights, and Possessions; from the Receipt of that letter all further Measures concerning the Expedition for the recovery of your Rights have accordingly been concerted by the said Committee, to whom therefore we beg leave to refer for Particulars.

G. I. C. P. O. No. 205 F. D.—18-2-92.—500.—deS.

Extract from General Letter to England from Fort St. George, dated 21st November 1756.

The *Walpole* and *Marllo* sailed the 16th October with Military and Stores for Bengal, in company with His Majesty's Squadron.

* * * * * *

Your Ship *Prince George* was agreeable to Our Directions sent to Bengal where We are sorry to say she met no better Fate than the rest of your Property there. After the Governor had left the Fort, the Gentlemen who remained in it thought that ship might be of some Assistance, and therefore ordered her to be brought up to the Fort, and it was accordingly attempted, but in the hurry and confusion being run aground, she was seized and burnt by the Moors.

* * * * * *

Having given Your Honours a full account in Our Address of the 13th October of our Transactions in regard to the Troubles in Bengal, we have only to beg Your Honours will be pleased to be referred for a more explicit Account of our Motives and Resolutions, to the Minutes of Consultation which we had extracted so far as they relate to the Bengal Affairs, that they may be laid before you distinct from other business.

* * * * * *

Mr. Clive arrived from Bombay the 25th May and took his seat at the Board as Second-in-Council, and shortly after proceeded to Fort St. David to take upon him the Deputy Government of that Settlement agreeable to your appointment; his presence being necessary at the Presidency on account of the Expedition We were setting on foot for Bengal, he returned here in August, and the Command-in-Chief of the Land Force sent on that Expedition being committed to him, he accordingly proceeded to Bengal with the Squadron the 16th October.

* * * * * *

Mr. Starke having delivered over the charge of the Settlement of Fort St. David to Mr. Clive returned to the Presidency in August, and shortly after his arrival addressed a Letter to the Board, signifying that as Your Honours had been pleased to superseed him by appointing Colonel Clive to the Deputy Government of Fort St. David, he imagined his conduct had not been so satisfactory as he wished to make it, and therefore requested leave to resign the service.

* * * * * *

Although Major Kilpatrick had resigned intending to have taken his Passage to England on the *Delawar*, yet upon receiving the News of the loss of Cassimbazar We looked upon him as the properest Person to serve you in the command of the Detachment We were then sending down; We no sooner proposed it to him, but he with the greatest chearfullness declared himself ready and willing to serve you whenever it might be thought necessary. Since his Departure for Bengal We have received and forwarded to him the Commission you have been pleased to grant him as Major of Bengal.

When We had under consideration the sending down the above Detachment, Colonel Lawrence, desirous of exerting himself whenever the service may require, offered to take the command of it, but when We considered the unhealthyness of the Bengal climate at that season, his time of life and state of health, We thought the chance of his surviving it greatly against him, and therefore desired he would waive his motion. He again offered his service when the grand Expedition was on foot, but for the same reasons added to others which will appear on our Minutes of Consultation We desired he would decline it; and in case of a war with France, he is to take the command in your garrison of Fort St. Davd during Colonel Clive's absence.

G. I. C. P. O.—No. 204 F. D.—9-6-92—500.—E. B.

COLONEL CLIVE'S CORRESPONDENCE.

Military Sundry Book No. 10, 1756 to 1758.

No. 1.] To Rajah Manickchund, December 15th, 1756.

Upon my arrival in these parts from Madrass, I was informed that you had shown a great friendship and regard for the English Company, for which I write to return you thanks. I doubt not but as you have hitherto profess'd a desire to serve the Company, you will at this time, when their affairs most require it, retain the same disposition in their favour.

No. 2.] Rajah Manickchund to Colonel Clive, December 19th, 1756.

Your obliging and friendly letter I have receiv'd, which has given me the greatest satisfaction. Your great abilities and dignity I was before well informed of, and I sincerely rejoice to hear of your safe arrival in these parts. You tell me that you have heard of my regard and friendly inclinations for the welfare of the English Company: had there been another man among the English possess'd of your qualifications, their affairs would never have been in the condition to which they are now reduced. The causes of the misfortunes which had befallen the Company's settlements you will learn from their former agents. My conduct in them you must have already known, as well as my disposition for peace and quiet which I have solely in view. Your letter has determined me more than ever in the same sentiments, and in my desire of serving the Company which I shall continue to do to the utmost of my power. Radakissen Mullick, a man of trust whom I have sent to you, will impart to you some further particulars which I recommend to your attentive consideration, &c., of which you will make such use as will be most agreeable to the interest of the Company. To appease dissentions and to settle troubles are the duties of a great man: to raise combustions is the part of mean and bad dispositions.

No. 3.] To Rajah Manickchund, December 21st, 1756.

I have receiv'd your friendly letter, and been very particularly acquainted by Radakissen of your intention to serve the Company in the advice you offer to terminate everything in a peaceable manner. I send you by Radakissen 3 letters to the Nabob Siraja Dowla, one from Salabut Jung, one from the Governor of Chinapatam, and one from myself; copy of the latter I enclose to you. After reading these letters it will be the Nabob's own fault if the troubles of this country should begin again, and, be worse than ever. I shall be very ready to listen to such terms as are consistent with the welfare, honor, and reputation of the Company and English nation, and I make no doubt, agreeably to the promise you have often made, that your interest will not be wanting at Court to settle all these things in a peaceable way, which will gain you great honor. Write me often of your health.

No. 4.] Rajah Manickchund to Colonel Clive, December 23rd, 1756.

I have had the pleasure to receive your most friendly letter. To hear you are in good health gives me the sincerest pleasure. Your sending a copy of your address to the Nabob enclos'd in your letter to me for my perusal I esteem as an instance of your friendship. Finding in it many improper expressions, and concluding that by sending me the copy of the letter you wish to know my sentiments upon it, I have, therefore, made some alterations in it and return it entrusted to Radakissen Mullick, who will deliver it to you. You will write your letter after that form, and despatch it again to me, and I will forward it to the Nabob. You write that you are desirous of peaceable measures. I likewise desire it, as nothing is better than peace to take away every cause of ill-will or contention, This is the part of a good man. For the rest you will be inform'd from Radakissen of my further sentiments. You write besides that you send three letters for the Nabob, one from yourself, one from Diephad Doula, one from Alli Verdi Cawn. Two of these I have receiv'd, but that from Alli Verdi Cawn is missing; perhaps by some mistake it may not have been sent. This I have thought proper to advise you of. I hope you will continue to inform me of your health, and look upon me as your real well-wisher.

Copy of a form of a Letter from Colonel Clive to the Nabob sent by Manickchund enclos'd in the foregoing letter.

The Sacred and Godlike Prince, the Nabab Salabat Jung Bahador, His Excellency of the Rank of Ameers Alliverdi Cawn Bahador, the Prince of Arcot, and His Excellency the Governor of Chinapatam, have wrote to you upon the subject of our affairs, which you will understand from their letters. You may already have heard that there are forces arrived in Bengall, and such as both in valour and experience never came into the country before. I hope you will consider this, and that by doing good to the English, you will do good to and establish the trade of your own country. Thus far let us obtain your favour that the English may obtain restitution of all their losses at Calcutta, Cossimbazar, and their other factories, and that by your favour they may again be admitted to remain in your dominions and to trade as formerly; that your lenity to your subjects may be known through the world, and your people may bless your Government, under which they enjoy so much happiness and tranquility. In war God is the disposer of victory, but there must be a loss of soldiers on both sides, and the whole nation must be involved in the calamity. It is the praise of great men to behave with generosity and forgiveness to those who have offended them.

No. 5.] To Rajah Manickchund, December 25th, 1756.

I have rec^{d}. your letter with the form enclos'd for a letter to the Nabob. I am very sensible of your friendship and kind intentions in sending me the latter which I have read, but am sorry, consistently with my duty to the Company or their honour, I cannot accept of your advice in writing to the Nabob a letter couch'd in such a style, which, however proper it might have been before the taking of Calcutta, would but ill-suit with the present time, when we are come to demand satisfaction for the injuries done us by the Nabob, not to entreat his favour, and with a force which we think sufficient to vindicate our claim.

Alliverdi Cawn's letter went by a former conveyance which I have taken notice of in mine to the Nabob.

No. 6.] To the Nabob Munsur-ul-mumalik Siraja Doula, Shah, Kooli Cawn, Bahadur Hybut Jung, December 25th, 1756.

Salabat Jung, the Nabob of Arcot and the Governor of Chinapatam have wrote to Your Excellency about our affairs, the Nabob of Arcot's letter is gone by a former conveyance. This note I send you by the means of Rajah Manickchund. Your Excellency will hear from others what force is come to Bengall, such a force was never seen before in your province. When Your Excellency comes to hear all these things and to consider seriously of them, I hope you will have so great a regard for yourself, for us, and for the trade of your province, as to give the Company full satisfaction for all the losses they have lately sustained by the taking of Cossimbazar, Calcutta, and all other factories belonging to the English in Bengall.

I know you are a great Prince and a great warrior. I likewise for these ten years past have been constantly fighting in these parts, and it has pleased God Almighty always to make me successfull, the like success may attend me in Bengall, it may attend Your Excellency. Why should the soldiers on either side run the risque of war, when all things may be made up in a friendly manner by restoring to the Company and to the poor inhabitants what they have been plundered.

No. 7.] To Nizr Alli, December 26th, 1756.

It gives me great pleasure to hear by your vackeel that you are in health; at the same time I cannot help expressing my concern for your being so great a sufferer in these parts.

Your sufferings cannot be greater than those of the English; however (thank God) there is now a prospect of gaining ample satisfaction for all our losses.

Your vackeel will be able to inform you what great things the English have done in other parts, and I am hopefull the force we have brought will enable us to do the like here, especially if we are so fortunate as to have your assistance.

I shall always be ready to enter into any proposals that may be for your service, and beg you will fully explain to me what you think is proper to be done to that end.

Write me of your health, &c.

No. 8.] To Rajah Manickchund, January 8th, 1757.

It is a long time since I had the pleasure of hearing from you and of learning the news of your health which has given me great concern.

From the past proceedings you must be sensible that we are not difficient in courage, nor do we want the strongest incitements to it from the injuries we have receiv'd. Your good sense and knowledge will make it unnecessary to observe that what has happen'd hitherto is very trifling, and that we cannot rest satisfied with the bare walls of Calcutta. We are come hither for satisfaction and redress of our wrongs, and I hope you will continue to shew yourself that friend to the English, which you have been so long esteemed, in making use of your interest, and that of your friends that we may obtain justice. I need not repeat our demands, which you are already well acquainted with. Should the Nabob refuse to listen to the terms we have proposed, it will occasion the utmost trouble in his country, and produce a terrible scene of confusion. Nor can it but be hurtfull to the Nabob himself, for victory depends not on numbers but the will of Providence. A wise and prudent man such as you are should endeavour beforehand to prevent things from coming to such extremities as may induce fresh enemies to rise up against the Nabob, whom the dread of his power now keeps quiet.

I shall be glad to know whether the letters which were sent to the Nabob arrived or not, no answer having been made to any of them.

No. 9.] To Juggat Seat, January 8th, 1757.

As you are a very great merchant and a man of much reputation and interest with the Nabob, I write you this letter of friendship that you may endeavour to settle all affairs for your Master's interest, your own, and the Company's. You must have heard that we have shewn no want of courage on the Cormandel Coast, and we have much stronger reasons to exert ourselves upon this occasion when we have been so much injured by the Nabob. I depend upon your using your interest and endeavour to prevail upon the Nabob to give us satisfaction for our losses, by which means you will prevent the province from being ruined.

I shall be glad to hear of your health, &c.

No. 10.] To Coja Wazid, January 8th, 1757.

From your letter to Major Kilpatrick I understand that you are apprehensive, some malicious persons have been endeavouring to depreciate your character with the Company's agents at this place. I have never heard any one say you was an enemy to the English. I am sure it is not for your interest to be so. You have always been esteem'd amongst our most hearty friends, nor do I doubt but you will use all your interest with the Nabob that these troubles may be ended by a peacable and happy accomodation.

No. 11.] COJA WAZID to COLONEL CLIVE, January 10th, 1757.

I have rec^{d}. your obliging letter, the purport of which I have attentively consider'd. The letter which you wrote to the Seats I have deliver'd to their vackeel, who has forwarded it to Maxadavad; an answer to it you will receive by their men. I wrote a letter to the Major sometime ago, the contents of which you are without doubt acquainted with. I shall be very glad to have an answer to it. When I receive the answer and am made acquainted with your demands I will represent them to the Nabob, and you may be assured of my interest and all the assistance I can give in getting them complied with. When I know the Nabob's pleasure in this affair I will let you know it. Be assured of my earnest desire to see you, and in the meantime I beg I may be favour'd with your correspondence.

P.S.—Though I have always been a well-wisher and an old friend of the English Company, yet no person has been so great a sufferer in the late disturbances as I am. Notwithstanding which I still look upon your interest as my own. When I have your answer to this letter I will use my utmost endeavours with the Nabob for the success of your affairs, and will acquaint you with his determination. Look upon me always as your steadfast and true friend and let me obtain your favour.

No. 12.] JUGGAT SEAT to COLONEL CLIVE, January 14th, 1757.

Your favour I have with great pleasure receiv'd, and give due attention to the contents. You are pleas'd to say that the Nabob listens to what I may recommend, and hope I will exert myself for your good and the general benefit of the country. My business is that of a merchant, and probably what I may recommend in that way he may give ear to. You have acted the very reverse part and possess'd yourselves of Calcutta by force, after which you have taken and destroyed the city of Hughley, and by all appearances you seem to have no design but that of fighting. In what manner then can I introduce an application for accomodating matters between the Nabob and you. What your intentions are it is impossible to find out from these acts of hostility. Put a stop to this conduct and let me know what your demands are. You may then depend upon it. I will use my interest with the Nabob to finish these troubles. How can you expect that the Nabob can pass by or overlook your conduct in pretending to take up arms against the Prince or Subah of the country. Weigh this within yourself.

No. 13.] COJA WAZID to COLONEL CLIVE, January 17th, 1757.

I have already replied to your letter which I hope you have receiv'd. Sometime before that I wrote the Major a letter with many particulars, and desired him to give you a perusal of it, but as I have never receiv'd any answer I apprehend that letter miscarried. I have always harbour'd in my breast a particular regard for the English Company, for which reason and for the interest and benefit of your nation settled here, I have desired Mr. Renault, the Director of Chandernagore, to endeavour accomodating matters between the Nabob and the English. Mr. Renault will inform you more particularly. Please to consider and weigh with yourself what the consequence of a continuance of the present differences may be to the Company's affairs and their future welfare, and whether it would not be more for their interest to put an end to these troubles by an amicable composition. When you have maturely consider'd upon this, let me have your answer and proposals as expeditiously as possible, and you may assure yourself I shall not be wanting in my endeavours in conjunction with Juggat Seat to adjust matters as much for the good and advantage of the English Company and their servants as we can.

No. 14.] To SEAT MAHTAB RAY AND MAHRAJAH SEROOP CHUND, January 21st, 1757.

I have receiv'd the letter which you did me the honour to write, and have communicated the contents to the Governor and Council of Calcutta.

It is with great pleasure I find you so ready to make use your interest with the Nabob to come into terms of accomodation, and to settle the troubles of this country. It would be but repeating to you what you have heard *from* all mouths, the devastation and ruin committed by Siraja Doula on the English. It would be unfolding a tale too horrible to repeat if I was to relate to you the horrid cruelties and barbarities inflicted upon an unfortunate people to whom the Nabob in a great part owes the riches and grandeur of his province. No less than 120 people, the greatest part of whom were gentlemen of family and distinction being put to an ignominious death in one night, and in such a manner as was quite inconsistent with the character of a man of courage or humanity, such as I have always heard the Nabob represented to be, and for this reason I believe it must have been done without his knowledge. Under these circumstances how can you expect we should any longer defer our resentment. Did we not send many letters to the Nabob in expectation that he would have sent answers thereto and complied with our just demands? Did we not wait many days at Fulta without committing hostilities? Did not the Governor of Budjbudgo first declare war against the English by firing upon the King's ships? What could we do but resent such treatment! Notwithstanding these just reasons of complaint you will find us ready to conclude such a peace as I think both for the interest of the Nabob and of the Company, to which purpose I send you enclos'd proposals on which we are willing to treat. As you are a man of sense, you will easily see the justice of our demands, and use your interest with the Nabob to induce him to comply with them. In so doing you will get the name of a patriot and prevent the country from being made a scene of ruin and destruction. You should consider that the English are a great nation, and that a King reigns over them not inferior in power to the Padsha himself. What resentment will not His Imperial Majesty express when he comes to hear of the death of so many of his faithful subjects? You should likewise consider that the great Commander of his Majesty's ship is sent to represent him in person, and that I have the same power, as the King of England's officer, and have my commission signed by his own hand. I hope you will not think me vain in telling you that we have had as powerful enemies as the Nabob to deal with upon the Coast of Cormandel and been attended with success; the like may happen here. However I hope the Nabob will not reduce us to the cruel necessity of trying our strength, for after all success depends upon God alone, who will aid and assist the injured.

No. 15.] To Coja Wazid, January 21st, 1757.

I have receiv'd both your letters and I do assure you I look upon you as a good friend and well-wisher to the English, and shall always be glad of an opportunity of doing you all the service in my power. It was with great concern I heard of your losses at Hughley, which I know must be very considerable, but I do assure you what was done there was not meant against you, but against the city of Hughley in revenge for the ruin of Calcutta. You know very well with what barbarous circumstances the destruction of that place was attended, and it was resolved before we left Chinapatam that that city should fall a sacrifice.

The letter you mention to have wrote to Major Kilpatrick neither he nor I have seen, so believe it must have miscarried.

You have doubtless heard of what we have done upon the Coast of Cormandel. What numerous and powerfull enemies we have always had to encounter, and yet we have been constantly successfull, which will lead you to consider, of the fatal consequences that may attend a war in this country, especially if any other enemy should rise up and join us against the Nabob, which it will be in his power to prevent by listening to our proposals, which I enclose for your perusal; and I hope you will use your interest with the Nabob to induce him to comply with them, and bring this matter to a happy conclusion, and the Nabob shall find the English his friends instead of enemies, ready to join him and fight for him against all the disturbers of his country.

I cannot upon many accounts approve of the intervention of the French in these affairs. Your integrity and friendship I can safely rely on, and beg that you and the Seats will be mediators between the Nabob and us.

No. 16.] Proposals to the Nabob enclosed in the two foregoing letters.

1st.—That the Nabob cause satisfaction to be made to the Company, to the English and all other inhabitants under their protection, for all the losses they have sustained by the captures of Calcutta, Cossimbazar, and all their other out-settlements; that he cause restitution to be made of all goods, effects, merchandize, &c., seiz'd at the different aurungs.

2nd.—That he put the Company in full possession of all the countries, villages, priviledges, &c., granted them by the Royal phirmaund.

3rd.—That he suffer the English to secure and fortify themselves in their own possessions in such manner as not to be liable to the like misfortunes in future.

4th.—That he suffer the Company to erect a Mint in Calcutta, endow'd with the same priviledges with the Mint at Muxadavad, and that if the rupees of Calcutta be of equal weight and fineness with those of Muxadavad they may pass current without any deduction of batta.

No. 17.] COJA WAZID to COLONEL CLIVE, January 24th, 1757.

Your obliging favour and the paper containing your proposals arrived together with your letter to the Seats by the means of the French Director. The purport I have duly consider'd. For what you are so kind as to write concerning my losses and the destruction of my house at Hughley I can assure you I have no concern upon that account, but am very well satisfied as these accidents and acts of violence are unavoidable betwixt enemies. But where they happen amongst friends they must be ascribed to the will of Providence: these evils will in the end be changed to good. I thank God I have never deviated in any one instance from those sentiments of friendship I have always profess'd for the English. Demand of any of the Company's agents that are with you, adjure them by the name of the Prophet Jesus to declare whether I have ever injured the Company in any respect whatsoever, or whether I have not always favored and befriended them whenever it lay in my power. I have ever been their friend and well-wisher, and the great trouble and concern I have had lately in their affairs God best knows. I have done everything in my power, and beyond that I am not accountable. In whatever manner I act I find myself involved in the greatest difficulties, for to give you my own opinion in the way of friendship, I run the risque of having my intentions misconstrued, and of urging anything that may be disagreeable to your sentiments. If I write anything as from the Nabob it may be a means of occasioning the entire turn of your affairs, and my endeavours be thus render'd ineffectual. In such a case I am at a loss how to act: you are a man of experience and prudence. Weigh well this affair and write me what you think the most proper expedient to be taken. I shall never be wanting in doing everything to the best of my power, that my character may suffer no imputation. For other matters I recommend you to the Director's letter. Upon receipt of his answer whatever may be necessary for your information I will write you.

ROY RUNGEET to COLONEL CLIVE, January 28th, 1757.

Juggat Seat, Mahtab Ray, and Maraja Seroop Chund, my masters, have sent me in their stead to attend the Nabob, and I am now with him in his camp. Coja Petruse is arrived here and from his discourse it appears that the Nabob is a stranger to your demands, and that you are equally unacquainted with the Nabob's pleasure. If you listen to the advices of such people as would persuade you to violent and hostile measures, the consequence will be the ruin of the country, the lives of many people, the stoppage of the Company's business and the trade of other merchants. For this reason it is I write to you if your intentions are to establish the trade of the Company on its former footing, send a person of trust and confidence with an address to the Nabob in company with Coja Petruse, and when we are acquainted with your demands, myself and Raja Doolubram, who is at the head of the Nabob's affairs, will lay them before the Nabob, and endeavour to prevail upon him to grant you restitution of the Company's factory at Cossimbazar and elsewhere. This will be for the general good of the country, for the advantage of the Company's affairs, for the benefit of every trading man (who must suffer by these troubles) and will give my masters particular satisfaction. Whatever service I can be of to your affairs I shall look upon in the same right with my own concerns, and therefore I trouble you with this letter as a mark of my good intention for your cause. What else is necessary for your information you will know from Coja Petruse. The letter which you wrote for my masters I have forwarded to Muxadavad. The Nabob this morning sent you a perwannah, for which reason I have not applied for another, as soon as your address to the Nabob arrives I will acquaint you with his answer.

OMICHUND to COLONEL CLIVE, January 28th, 1757.

God be prais'd that Calcutta is again restored to its former splendor by your happy arrival. Most fortunate is their lot who serve you, but how unhappy is mine who am secluded from your presence by my confinement which you must be acquainted with. I hope that when I shall have the honour to be call'd to attend you I shall be able to find means to procure my liberty. At present I understand I lie under your displeasure by means of some evil persons who have misreported me to you. But I doubt not of being able to wipe off this stain. I have made it the subject of my constant devotions that God would bring back my masters into the country. God has granted my prayers. How little I am deserving of blame will be evident when I appear before you and then I shall have justice done me. A man who can wish ill to those from whom he receives his bread will be branded with ignominy in the world. How can he hope for success or happiness. God grant that I may get free from my confinement that I may throw myself at your feet and lay my whole conduct before you, who will grant me justice, and then I shall be deliver'd from all my misfortunes.

P.S.—I desire Major Kilpatrick to accept of my humble respect.

To the NABOB, &c., January 30th, 1757.

I wrote Your Excellency a letter some time ago to which you have not yet been pleased to send me an answer. No doubt Your Excellency has been informed that I am Commander-in-Chief of the land forces, and that I am the King of England's officer. In future the Admiral and I shall address Your Excellency jointly in all affairs relating to the interest and welfare of the Company, and in a day or two shall send you some proposals, the purport of which will be to settle peace in your dominions, and to request some favours of Your Excellency for the benefit of the Company.

Your Excellency well knows what great hardships and immense losses the English have suffered through your displeasure. As you are a great soldier you must be likewise a man of great justice, for the one is insepperable from the other; and I am sure your goodness and equity as well as affection for your poor unhappy subjects will induce you to give the Company satisfaction for their losses. Though I have been a soldier many years, and it has pleas'd Providence always to bless me with success on the Coast, I had much rather the Company should be indebted to your generosity for the restitution of their affairs than to the force of arms.

I hope Your Excellency will weigh and consider this affair, and by your kindness to the English make them your friends instead of your enemies, by which means you shall always find them ready to join and support you against all such as dare to disturb the peace of your province.

To RUNGEET ROY, January 30th, 1757.

I have receiv'd your letter by Coja Petruse. Your conduct in endeavouring to settle peace in the province shews you to be a man of sense, acting for the interest of trade, the Nabob, and the Company. I have wrote a letter to the Nabob, which ought to give him satisfaction, and persuade him to consent to the proposal which the Admiral and myself shall make him in a day or two.

We shall send Coja Petruse and a trusty person with them. If these proposals are not consented I can call God to witness it will not be my fault that the province be ruined, as I had rather owe the success and welfare of the Company to the Nabob's justice, so am I determined if that justice be denied me to establish the English by force of arms, or fall a sacrifice to the Nabob's displeasure, which ought not to have fallen on a whole nation for the sake of any private injury.

I have receiv'd no letter yet from the Nabob which has given me much concern, as he has wrote to the Admiral.

NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, January 30th, 1757.

The letter you wrote me I have received and take proper notice of the contents. You write that you desire to have matters accomodated and to live in good understanding with me. To have reparation for the Company's losses assure yourself I will make no scruple of complying with the demand, I find it is both our intentions that measures for the Company's losses, the country's good, and the safety of the inhabitants should be pursued. Therefore send a person of entire trust and confidence with orders and power to treat upon these affairs. You may send such a person without being under any apprehensions of his safety. You may depend upon my giving a currency to the Company's business at all their factories upon its former footing. I make no doubt things will be soon accomodated upon your sending such a person. The manner and time of restoring the Company's losses shall be settled: this I hope you will agree to. I know you are a soldier and as such I should chuse to be your friend. If you are willing to make up these troubles and will live in friendship with me I shall never be wanting on my part to forward your Company's business, and to shew their servants my favour upon all occasions. To render justice and to study the good of my country and tenants are what I am desirous of. This is what I have always had at heart: for this reason God has always bless'd me with success.

From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, February 1st, 1757.

Your plundering Hughley was not like merchants. Many goods have been destroy'd and lost. I am likewise arrived at Hughley and purpose to march forwards. Now if you want to have the trade of the country and the Company's business restored to its former currency, send a person of trust to me who may confer with me upon these matters. I will allow you the same freedom in Calcutta and your other factories as you enjoy'd formerly, if you are willing to trade again in the country, and make peace with me. As soon as this conference is finished I will restore to you all your losses. You know very well that what plunder falls into the hands of soldiers in war cannot be restored. But let there be peace and friendship between us, and I will certainly allow you something in consideration of those losses. You too have the principles of religion to guide you. You know peace is better than war. Whether the Company's business shall florish or fall is in your own power: therefore I have sent you these two words to prevent further trouble.

RUNGEET ROY to COLONEL CLIVE, February 1st, 1757.

Your favour in answer to my letter I have receiv'd, the particulars likewise which you imparted to Coja Petruse I am acquainted with. Your address to the Nabob I have deliver'd, the answer to it you will receive from Coja Petruse. The Nabob express'd great satisfaction in reading your address. I hope you will send a person of trust hither with your proposals. By God's assistance I will get that business transacted with the Nabob and send you advice of it. On the success of this affair the quiet of the country, the currency of the Company's business and the freedom of trade in general depend, and the flames of war will be extinguished. I have never been nor ever will be wanting in doing what lies in my power for the service of the Company. Your messenger returns with a chubdar and a dustich which will be delivered to you when the person whom you shall send arrives. I shall have the charge of his introduction to the Nabob and his dismission. Do not apprehend that any of the people about the Nabob will do anything to the prejudice of your affairs. I shall exert myself as far as in my power in your business as a thing that will be most acceptable to my masters, Juggat Seat and Maharajah, and I hope with success. Coja Petruse arriving late, three perwannahs were sent to him by Kallichurn Bammon to be delivered with you, which by this time he must have done. Other particulars you will learn from Coja Petruse himself. Perwannahs have been already sent to three gentlemen. I must trouble you to acquaint me if there is a necessity for sending another perwannah, or for my writing to any other person, and it shall be done.

To the NABOB, February 3rd, 1757.

The two letters which Your Excellency favour'd me with I have received which gave me much pleasure. You ask whether we chuse to have war or peace. My inclinations are rather to obtain peace from your favour; none but bad men can wish for war: my views are quite for the reverse: nothing can equal the pleasure which I received from the favourable sentiments expressed in Your Excellency's letter. I thank God that I have found you so graciously inclined. I shall send a relation of my own and another person tomorrow morning to confer with Your Excellency about our affairs, who will fully explain to you my inclinations, and may advise me in return of your pleasure. The proposals they shall make to you I hope will meet with your concurrence. I esteem Your Excellency in the place of my father and mother, and myself as your son, and should think myself happy to lay down my life for the preservation of yours.

The NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, February 3rd, 1757.

This place being unfit for encamping my army, for this reason my forces have marched forward and are encamped in Omichund's garden. Let not this give you any uneasiness. Your business is with me. Rest contented and send me your relation and the other person whom you shall depute to settle affairs with me as soon as possible. I swear by God and his prophet that no evil shall happen to them. Let them fairly represent your demands to me, and I will grant them. I have given orders to all the Jemaidars that they commence no disturbance. Do not you be under any apprehension on this account but send away the deputies to me with safety.

RUNGEET ROY to COLONEL CLIVE, February 3rd, 1757.

The address which you wrote this day to the Nabob by Coja Petruse is arrived: the answer you will receive from Coja Petruse. The Nabob has sent you a present of turnips and flowers by the same person. The Commanders of the army encamped this day in Omichund's garden. I hope you are under no apprehension on this account. Rest satisfied and send away the two deputies, but do not insist upon any great point which I cannot venture to lay before the Nabob. My view is to get a free currency for the Company's trade and that of other merchants. For this purpose I am now with the Nabob. I have constantly addressed him upon this subject and have disposed the Nabob to comply with your demands. God grant that the Company's business may be renewed in this country.

The Nabob's letter to you is writing and will be sent to you immediately.

The NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, February 4th, 1757.

I have with pleasure receiv'd your letter and observe the contents. You have done well in appointing the two deputies to come to me, whom you may send in safety, that I may be acquainted from them with your demands, and with whatever else they may have to confer with me upon. When this conference is finished I will certainly agree to your proposals.

To the Nabob, February 4th, 1757.

I have receiv'd with pleasure Your Excellency's letter. According to your desire I have sent the two deputies to attend you with Coja Petruse and the chubdar. My demands you will be made acquainted with from the deputies, which I hope will meet with a ready compliance from your justice. By this your goodness will be publish'd to all the world and I shall acquire universal honour. I live in your country and under your protection, and I hope I shall be able to drive away all your enemies, and for this I desire I may obtain your favour.

To Rungeet Roy, February 4th, 1757.

I have receiv'd both your favours, which gave me much pleasure. You acquaint me that I may send the two deputies in safety, that their reception and dismission is to be in your charge. Agreeably to what you write I send my own relation and another person upon this business. I expect that whatever they shall impart to you you will represent to the Nabob and obtain his consent to our proposals. Your Master's good intentions will be remembered by the Company as long as it subsists. I have sent the deputies as you desired.

To Omichund, February 4th, 1757.

Your letter I have receiv'd and observe the contents. I never pay any regard to the reports of false and designing persons. I have been told many idle stories to which I give no credit. As soon as you are at liberty to come to me you shall have justice done you: if you can obtain permission come without fear.

From Rungeet Roy, February 6th, 1757.

I thought that the English were always faithfull to their words and agreements, for which reason I interposed in your affairs with the Nabob and dismiss'd your deputies who could not properly settle the business on which they came, therefore I wrote to you desiring that you would send a paper containing your demands which I would prevail upon the Nabob to sign. The Nabob agrees to give you back Calcutta with all the priviledges, the phirmaund, and whatever goods you lost at Cossimbazar or elsewhere, and will grant you permission to coin siccas in your Mint at Calcutta or Allenagur, and that you may make what fortifications you think proper in Calcutta. Your conduct yesterday morning greatly annoyed me and put me to shame before the Nabob. What pass'd between the Nabob and myself Coja Petruse will inform you: what has happen'd will occasion no difference in this affair. If you want to accommodate matters send a letter to the Nabob with your proposals, and I will get them signed and send them back to you, with a sirpah, elephant, and jewells. After this the Nabob will decamp and march to Muxadavad. If you think war necessary acquaint me sincerely with your intentions, and I will acquit myself of any further trouble in these affairs.

To the Nabob.

I sent two gentlemen to treat with you about a peace at Nabobgunge, where, by your letters and the promise from your own mouth to Coja Petruse, I expected they would have met you, instead of which they found you in Calcutta. This action sufficiently shews you meant only to amuse me, but did I want further evidence your firing in your march upon my people, your burning the town, and the disrespect shewn to my deputies, put it out of all doubt that you intended to carry on the war. I therefore made a tour through your camp to shew you what I was capable of effecting. I cautiously hurt none but those that oppose me. If you still think meanly of my *   *   *   *   * of a soldier, that I shall shortly receive a supply of English soldiers equal to my present number. If these should not be sufficient for to procure us satisfaction from you, let me further assure you that when the great King of England shall have heard of the treatment his subjects have rec^{d}. in this kingdom he will most certainly send forces sufficient to destroy the whole province if satisfaction cannot be had from your own justice. I hope you will again consider of the matter and resolve to comply with my reasonable demands. My regard for your people, for my own nation, and for mankind in general makes me wish for peace. If we must continue in war I call all men to witness that it is not my fault.

To the Nabob, February 7th, 1757.

The proposals I have enclos'd in this letter for Your Excellency's perusal. I am come into this country for peace and not for war which will evidently appear from these proposals. I hope Your Excellency will rectify them in the most solemn manner, putting your hand and seal to them as likewise the hands and seals of your principal officers. It gives me great concern that I am come into this country as an enemy. I had rather have come as a friend in which light I beg you will look upon me and as a real well-wisher to your service.

Copy of the proposals sent to the Nabob by Colonel Clive, February 7th, 1757.

1. That the Company be not molested upon account of such priviledges as have been granted them by the King's phirmaund and Husbul Hookum, and that the phirmaund, Husbul Hookum remain in full force; that the villages were granted to the Company by the phirmaund, but detained from

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2. That all goods belonging to the English Company, and having their dustick, do pass freely by land or by water in Bengal, Behar, and Orissa, without paying any duties or fees of any kind whatsoever, and that the Zemindars, Chokeydars, Guzerdars,* &c., offer them no kind of molestation upon this account.

3. That restitution be made the Company of their factories and settlements at Calcutta, Cossimbazar, Dacca, &c., which have been taken from them; that all money and effects taken from the English Company, their factors and dependents at the several settlements and aurangs be restored in the same condition; that an equivalent in money be given for such goods as are damaged, plundered or lost, which shall be left to the Nabob's justice to determine.

4. That the Company be allowed to fortify Calcutta in such a manner as they shall esteem proper for their defence without any hindrance or obstruction.

5. That siccas be coin'd at Allenagur, Calcutta, in the same manner as at Muxadavad, and that if the money struck in Calcutta be of equal weight and fineness with that of Muxadavad there be no demand made for a deduction of batta.

6. That these proposals be ratified in the strongest manner, in the presence of God and his prophet, and sign'd and seal'd by the Nabob and some of his principal people.

7. And Admiral Charles Watson and Colonel Clive promise in behalf of the English Nation and of the English Company that from henceforth all hostilities shall cease in Bengal, and the English will observe general peace and friendship with the Nabob, as * * * * *

To Rungeet Roy, February 7th, 1757.

I have receiv'd your letter. I am sure you will not think me guilty of a breach of promise when you have read the letter which I have wrote the Nabob: the breach of promise was on the Nabob's side. I return you many thanks for the zeal you have shewn the English, and am well convinc'd of your sincerity. A further proof of it will be getting the proposals I have sent the Nabob sign'd and seal'd immediately in the manner mention'd in the proposals. As soon as this is done all hostilities shall cease, and I assure you there shall be no more troubles from the English in the country. You mention a present of a sirpaw,* &c., to be given me by the Nabob. Whatever is done of that sort I desire may be conferr'd upon the Admiral and myself jointly. Be assured of my friendship and good inclinations towards you, and write me often of your health.

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* A collector of tolls at ferries.

From Rungeet Roy, February 8th, 1577.

I have rec'd. your favour which has given me great pleasure. The address which you wrote to the Nabob he has received. The proposals which you sent the Munshee had wrote altogether, but I have separated them and have sent them to you by Coja Petruse in the same manner that they are to be countersigned by the Nabob. My part I have done in this business, and I hope that you on yours will send the proposals back wrote out fair, to the end that these troubles may be concluded. After the manner of the form which I have sent, the Nabob will sign and seal to the proposals and send them * *

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They may be sign'd and seal'd after the form above mentioned and the Nabob will send you a sirpah, &c., and march back to Muxadavad. What could be expected from me I have done, the rest remains with you. Let not any one ruin this business and put me to shame. The copy of the articles shall certainly be inserted in the publick books, and whenever your Vacquel comes to the Nabob I am ready to grant him all the assistance in my power, which shall never be wanting. You may send any one in that employ with security.

Agreement sent by the Nabob to be sign'd and seal'd by the Governor and Council of Calcutta.

We the East India Company, in the presence of His Excellency the Nabob Munsur ul Mumaluk Siraja Doula, Shah Kooli Cawn Bahadr, Hybut Jung, Nazim of the provinces of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa, by the hands and seal of the Council and by firm agreement and solemn attestation do declare that the business of the Company's factories within His Excellency's jurisdiction, shall go on in its former course, and that we will be obedient to the command of the Prince; that we will never oppress or do violence to any persons without cause; that we will never offer protection to any persons, having accounts with the Government, any of the King's Talukdars, Zemindars, nor murderers nor robbers; that we will never act contrary to the tenor of the articles agreed to by the Nabob, but ever paying due obedience and submission to the Nabob will carry on our business as formerly and will never in any respect deviate from this agreement.

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Countersignment of the Nabob to the Articles sent him, the 7th February, 1757.

1st.—Article countersign'd according to former custom.

2nd.—Fully agreed to.

3rd.—Whatever of the Company's effects are in the Nabob's possession shall be restored.

4th.—Its no matter (or it may be done).

5th.—English coin shall be stampt in the name of Allenagur.

6th.—Five times the Nabob has written an answer to your proposals when the agreement shall be return'd, sign'd, and seal'd by the Governor and Council of Calcutta, then these articles shall be sign'd and seal'd in this manner.

7th.—If the great Commanders are faithful in their promises undoubtedly they will be put in execution.

To Rungeet Roy, February 9th, 1757.

Your letter with the paper containing our demands, and the agreement to be made on the part of the Company I have rec.^{d} with the greatest pleasure. I am surpriz'd that the Nabob and you trifle with me. I observe that you are not inclinable to agree to our proposals. God is my witness that my actions have been open and generous, and that my intentions are for peace. I now send you the articles wrote out fair, let the Nabob sign "agreed" to each separate article in the manner that I have done upon the copy. If this is done there shall be peace, if not do not * * * * *

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* Sirpaw, properly Saropa, corruptly Sirpao, Serpaw H. (lit. hand and foot). A complete dress of honour.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

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by the phirmaund and the abovementioned articles, nor will give protection to any persons belonging to the Government nor will do violence or injury to any persons without cause.

To Omichund, February 9th, 1757.

I desire greatly to see you, and have many things to impart to you, if you can come to me for a short time. You may do it with safety, no harm shall happen to you, and you shall be at liberty to return whenever you please in security.

From Rungeet Roy, February 9th, 1757.

Your letter with the proposals I have rec'd. The articles I have returned to you countersign'd and seal'd by the Nabob. If you are satisfied with this let the Governor and Council duly sign and seal the agreement conformably to the copy sent by Coja Petruse, and send it hither, and a sirpa, &c., shall be brought you by one of the Nabob's principal officers. If these articles, as now sent you, and the Company's agreement are to your satisfaction it is well: if you do not approve of them then do what you think proper. I will concern myself no further in this business, nor will the Company any longer subsist in this country. By my endeavours herein, hitherto I have brought affairs to their present posture. I have done everything that could be done for the Company's welfare, and have dealt exactly according to my word. If peace cannot be settled then let war take its course. I have done my part for the best, as yet you may take what measures you think proper * * *

* * * * * upon it, That there

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The paper of the articles was sent you before Coja Petruse's despatch which you must have rec'd.

From Coja Petruse, February 9th, 1757.

The articles sign'd and seal'd by the Nabob are sent to you for your perusal. Return back the paper with the agreement sign'd by the Council and seal'd with the Company's seal as soon as possible. When that is come the articles will be seal'd by the Dewan and Roy Dullub, and I will bring it to you with the sirpah, &c.

To the Nabob, February 10th, 1757.

I return Your Excellency the articles of agreement which I request you'll let your Dewan, the King's Dewan, and some of your head Jemaidars sign and seal in the presence of God. The paper which Your Excellency desired might be sign'd and seal'd by the Governor and Council is done, which I enclose you, and as soon as you return the articles of agreement, sign'd and seal'd in the manner desired, the Admiral and I will send Your Excellency a paper, sign'd and seal'd by us in the presence of God, that all hostilities shall cease, that there shall be peace in the country, and that the English will be faithful to your agreement. I hope all these things will give Your Excellency satisfaction, and convince you that the English are very desirous of assisting you against all who disturb the peace of your province.

I shall be glad if you will send one of your principal men, a person of trust, to me. I shall have many things to communicate to him for the good of your service, and I declare in the presence of God no one shall dare to insult

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Agreement of the Company sign'd by the Governor and Committee, the 9th February, 1757.

We the East India Company, in the presence of His Excellency the Nabob Munsur ul Mumaluk, Siraja Doula, Shah Kooli Cawn Bahadr, Hybut Jung, Nazim of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa by the hands and seal of the Council and by firm agreement and solemn attestation, do declare that the business of the Company's Factories within the jurisdiction of the Nabob shall go on in its former course, that we will never oppress or do violence to any persons without cause, that we will never offer protection to any persons having accounts with the Government, any of the King's Talukdars or Zemindars, nor murderers nor robbers; that we will never act contrary to the tenor of the articles agreed to by the Nabob; that we will carry on our business as formerly and will never in any respect deviate from this agreement.

To Rungeet Roy, February 10th, 1757.

Coja Petruse has been detain'd so long in transacting this business that I am unwilling to waste more time in writing you a long letter, but will write to you again soon by another opportunity. I desire the articles may be sign'd and sent back as soon as possible. I return you many thanks for the trouble you have taken and the good-will you have shewn to the English Company, which is evident from the friendly part you have acted in these affairs. I shall write to the Seats to return them thanks upon this occasion in a few days.

From the Nabob, February 11th, 1757.

Your letter enclosing the proposals, which * * *
* * * * my own * *
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sign'd and seal'd by the Governor and Council of Calcutta, likewise mentioning your intention of sending a paper under your own and the Noble Admiral Charles Watson's hands and seals by which you engage that all hostilities in the country shall cease; that the English will always remain in peace and friendship with me, and assist me in driving away my enemies, and desiring me to send a man of confidence to you by whom you have some things of consequence to impart to me, whom you promise to dismiss in security. I have rec^{d}. this with great pleasure. According to your desire I have sent the articles, sign'd and seal'd by the King's Dewan, my own Dewan, and the Buxey of the army. The agreement under the hands and seal of the Governor and Council I have receiv'd. I make no doubt but you will send the other paper as you have promised, ratified by your Excellency and the great man above mentioned. I likewise call God and his prophet to witness that I have made peace with you and with the English nation; that as long as I live I will look upon your enemies as my enemies, and when you write to me that you stand in need of my assistance I will give it you. It is necessary that your Excellency and the Noble Admiral Charles Watson and the other Chiefs of the English call God to witness, according to the manner of your own religion, that you will abide by your agreement, that you will look upon my enemies as your enemies, and that you will afford me your assistance whenever I demand it with a competent force. In this treaty God is witness on both sides, what more shall I write.

P.S.—(Wrote in the Nabob's own hand). In the presence of God and his prophet, I declare that I will never deviate in any respect from the agreement that is made between the Company and myself, and that I will favour them * * * * * * *
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your part of * * * * *
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Articles of agreement sent by the Nabob, February 11th, 1757.

Munsur ul Mumaluk, Siraja Doula, Shah Kooli Cawn, Bahadr, Hybut Jung, servant of King Aalum Geer, y^e Invincible.

Signed seven times.

Agreed to according to the tenor of the Phirmaund.

Lists of demands.

1. That the Company be not molested on account of such priviledges as have been granted them by the King's Phirmaund and Husbul Hookum remain in full force; that the villages which were granted to the Company by the phirmaund, but detain'd from them by the Subahs, be likewise allowed them, nor impediment or restriction be laid on the Zemindars.

It is agreed to.

2. That all goods belonging to the English Company, and having their dustuck do pass freely by land or by water in Bengall, Behar, and Orissa without paying any duties or fees of any kind whatever, and that the Zemindars Chokeydars, Guzardars, &c., offer them no kind of molestation upon this account.

Whatever has been seized by the Government it is agreed shall be restored.

3. That restitution be made the Company for their Factories and Settlements at Calcutta, Cossimbazar, Dacca, &c., which have been taken from them; that all money and effects taken from the English Company, their factors and dependants, at the several settlements and aurungs be restored in the same condition; that an equivalent in money be given for such goods as are damaged, plunder'd, or lost, which shall be left to the Nabob's justice to determine.

It is agreed to.

That the Company be allow'd to fortifie Calcutta in such a manner as they shall esteem proper for their defence without any hindrance or obstruction.

It is agreed that bullion imported by the Company be coin'd into Siccas.

5. That Siccas be coin'd at Allenagur, Calcutta, in the same manner as at Muxadabad, and that if the money struck in Calcutta be of equal weight and fineness with that of Muxadabad there be no demand for a deduction of batta.

In the presence of God and his prophet these articles are sign'd and seal'd.

6. That these proposals be ratified in the strongest manner, in the presence of God and his prophet, and sign'd and seal'd by the Nabob and some of his principal people.

On condition that an agreement under the Company's Seal and sign'd by the Company's Council and sworn to according to their religion be sent me. I agree to the articles which I have countersigned.

7. And Admiral Charles Watson and Colonel Clive promise in behalf of the English nation and of the English Company that from henceforth all hostilities shall cease in Bengal and the English will always remain in peace and friendship with the Nabob as long as these articles are kept in force and remain unviolated.

Meer Jaffer Cawn, Bahadr, a servant of the King Aallum Geer y^e invincible.	Clazal Mulk Misyadad Doula Nowazish Ali Cawn, Bahadr Zahooar Jung, a servant of the King Aallum Geer, y^e invincible.	Raja Doolubram, Bahadr, a servant of King Aallum Grer, y^e invincible.

Witness.
Mohindar Narrain Canjo.

Witness.
Luckinnarrain Canjo.

To the Nabob, February 12th, 1757.

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you desired. You will receive one from the Admiral likewise and one from the Governor and Council. After this there can be no doubt that your Excellency and the English will always be friends and your enemies shall be theirs, and their enemies shall be yours. You may be assured that whenever you want our assistance it shall be granted, and I make no doubt that your Excellency will be as ready on your side. I beg the favour of your Excellency to admit Omichund to your presence, he has something of consequence to communicate to you for the peace and welfare of your country. I declare before God I shall always remember your Excellency's kindness and affection for the English. I will write home to the Company in such a manner as to convince them and all the world of your justice and equity.

Agreement of Colonel Clive with the Nabob, the 12th February, 1757.

I, Colonel Clive, Sabut Jung Bahadr, Commander of the English Forces in Bengall, do solemnly declare in the presence of God and our Saviour that there is peace between the Nabob Siraja Doula and the English. The English will inviolately adhere to the articles of the treaty made with the Nabob that as long as he shall observe his agreement the English will always look upon his enemies as their enemies, and whenever call'd upon will grant him all the assistance in their power.

From the Nabob, February 14th, 1757.

I have imparted to Omichund several particulars which you will be fully acquainted with from him. I desire that when you dispatch Mr. Watts to Maxadavad you will send 25 artillerymen with him for my service, and write upon a separate paper what they are to be allow'd monthly which * *

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To the Nabob, February 16th, 1757.

I have received your Excellency's letter, which gave me the greatest pleasure. You write that you have imparted to Omichund several particulars for my information; that you desire I will send you 25 artillerymen and acquaint you with their monthly allowance. Omichund has fully explain'd to me what you imparted to him. Your Excellency's affairs I have at heart beyond any other consideration. The report that your enemies are entering the province I have heard likewise, and have consider'd of such measures as shall effectually prevent their coming, which shall never happen, for I am your friend. Our enemies have told you that the English were false to their agreements. Such a report has wounded me in the severest manner, and for this reason I will very soon give you a proof how sincerely I am attach'd to your service. I have sent with Mr. Watts 15 artillerymen including their officers, and have enclos'd an account of their daily allowance, wrote on a separate paper, for your satisfaction. Omichund will inform you how much I have your service at heart, and I hope I shall daily obtain an encrease of your favour.

	R	a.	p.
P.S.—1. Officer's wages per day	6	0	0
1 Sergeant	1	8	0
1 Corporal	1	0	0
12 Private men, 12 annas per day each	9	0	0
TOTAL	17	8	0

In compliance with your commands I have sent you this acco^{t}, but I beg you will so far oblige me as to allow me to defray these charges myself.

To Juggat Seat, Mahtab Ray, and Mahrajah Seroop Chund, February 16th, 1757.

Omichund has acquainted me that you sent Lalla Rungeet Roy to attend His Excellency the Nabob, of the * * * * *

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kindness which you have shewn in your endeavours to restore the currency of the Company's trade. I have made particular mention of it in my letters to Europe. What effects have been seiz'd by the Government I make no doubt will be restored, besides which there are many that remain in the hands of private people. These I beg you will make enquiry after and assist us in getting the restitution of them. Look upon this business as your own, as I on my part shall do everything for your service with the same earnestness as if it was for my own. Your enemies too shall be mine. These things you will be told likewise from Omichund and Rungeet Roy. Esteem me ever as your friend and let me be favour'd with your correspondence.

To Runjeet Roy, February 16th, 1757.

From the time that I had the happiness of your company, my heart has conceiv'd the sincerest friendship for you. It is this makes me desirous of enjoying the pleasure of your friendly letters till I have that of meeting with you again. My friend Mr. Watts is now going to Muxadavad. Whatever business he may have to transact there, he will trouble you of your friendly assistance and advice in promoting it, which I doubt not you will readily afford him. Our affairs with regard to the French I have already fully acquainted you with in person.

From the Nabob, February 18th, 1757.

To put a stop to the troubles of the country and that y^e business of the English Company might again obtain a free currency in these dominions, I gave permission to carry on their trade as formerly, and a treaty was agreed to and ratified on both sides, and a peace was firmly establish'd, besides your Excellency sign'd an agreement and sent it to me, in which you promis'd that the English should committ no further hostilities in the country. *
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preparing to * * * * * *
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this time no European ever committed hostilities in this Empire. If there are any disturbances in Hughley, I shall be necessitated to provide for the safety of the royal dominions by sending forces to that place, but I believe that the agreement betwixt us will be firmly observed. Some time ago we were engaged in a long war with the Mahrattas. Peace was at length concluded and treaty agreed upon, which has never yet been broken nor ever will, for this reason that a breach of contract is opposite to the principles of every religion. You ought to abide by the agreement you have made, and to prevent before hand any disturbances from arising in this country; the promises which I have made and sign'd to, and the agreement made on your part, shall remain ever unviolated even in the least tittle by me.

P.S.—Wrote in the Nabob's own hand. I hold myself bound by my agreement and hope in God you will likewise abide by yours. You must have heard that I was seven years engaged in war with Raja Rogo Gee. From the time that I enter'd into a treaty with him I have never in the least respect deviated from it. You ought likewise to remain as faithful to yours, nor occasion any troubles in the country.

From the Nabob, February 19th, 1757.

I wrote you a letter yesterday which you will have receiv'd. Since that I understand by letters from the French and by the information of their Vackeel that five or six ships * * are newly arrived, and more shortly expected; that you have only * * a peace is appearance with me, but your real intentions are to make war again with me in the rains. This is not acting * * a soldier, or a man of bravery, who should be the same thing in heart as profession. If you mean to keep to your engagements send away your ships to the sea, and put in execution the promises made in your agreement with * *
* * * * * * Treaty, after
having * * * * * * *
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you have the book of God, if you are not just to your contracts it will be astonishing and unaccountable.

To the Nabob, February 22nd, 1757.

Both your favours I have receiv'd. I never could have thought after what has pass'd, and the agreement so solemnly sworn to, you could have suspect'd the English of being unfaithful to their words. This must be owing to the misrepresentation of our enemies, the French, who never have paid the least regard to truth where they could do us a prejudice. I thought when we had solemnly sworn that your enemies should be ours, and our enemies should be yours, that you would have justly looked upon the French as such, who are declared enemies by our great King. I further thought you would have placed that confidence in us to believe that our principle in taking their settlement was to prevent the troubles which I foresee will arise in your province.

However as you have given ear to all these bad stories which have been told you of us by designing and * * men, that more ships of war are arrived, and that we intend to break the peace so solemnly sworn to, I do at once declare I will lay aside all thoughts of attacking the French, let them enter into a peace with us in your dominions directly, and do your Excellency swear that you will attack that party with your whole force who first infringes the neutrality, and the ships leave the river and I will return to the Coast.

I call God to witness that I have lately had your interest much at heart, and if this neutrality which you are desirous to have concluded with the French should end in ruin of this kingdom, I wash my hands of all blame. Your Excellency is answerable for the consequences.

Mr. Watts was sent to acquaint you * * *

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this ground till I had your consent. I could have taken the fort in two days. Your Excellency's forbidding me to do it after everything was in readiness has put me to great shame. However as you think the peace of your province will be preserved by it, it gives me great pleasure to comply with your request. If anything prejudicial to your affairs should happen by this favour towards the French, I beg you will remember this letter. Time will discover which of the two nations is most to be depended upon.

To the Nabob, February 23rd, 1757.

I still remain at the place your messenger found me in, cover'd with shame at the injunction laid upon me not to molest our enemies. I impatiently wait your Excellency's final answer, which I shall strictly comply with. It gives me the greatest concern to find your Excellency daily conferring favours on the French, who never have merited them. I do request that your Excellency will judge of the two nations by their actions and not by their words.

No. 59.] From Rungeet Roy, February 19th, 1757.

Roy Bur Sing has brought your agreement to the Nabob and deliver'd the agreement sign'd by the Nabob to be enter'd in the books of the Company, as your agreement is in those of the Government's. The Nabob will strictly maintain his agreement, and it is as incumbent on you to abide as strictly by what you have promis'd, nor occasion any disturbance in the King's dominions, which has never been the custom hitherto.

What you have written to the Nabob besides the agreement I am unacquainted with. Now by the Grace of God that peace is established between the Nabob and you; it is proper and just that you act in every shape conformable to your agreement, and enter upon the business of the Company in the same manner as formerly, and be assured of always possessing the Nabob's friendship and continuance. You must have heard that there was a war for seven years between the Nabob and Mahrattas. From the time the peace was concluded betwixt them, and the treaty on both sides agreed to, it has never been broken since. I hope likewise the friendship between the Nabob and you will continually increase daily, and the Company's business flourish more than ever.

No. 60.] To the Nabob, March 3rd, 1757.

Several days are past since I wrote you two letters upon a subject very interesting to your Excellency as well as to me, and I thought the importance of it would have induced you to have sent an answer to them immediately. My surprise therefore is very great not to have heard from you, and I cannot help thinking something very extraordinary must be the occasion of it. I cannot doubt but your Excellency has wrote to me, and apprehend, some enemies to your Excellency as well as to me, have prevented the letter from reaching me. I am still the more confirm'd in this opinion by not having heard for many days from Mr. Watts. I receive daily reports that your Excellency does not intend to perform the articles of the treaty to which I give no credit and look on the propagators as common enemies to us both. However I am not a little concern'd to find none of the articles yet fulfill'd. Your Excellency no doubt has too great a regard for your honour, and to the solemn asseverations you have made, to think of violating the treaty. Before this peace was concluded I acquainted you that more ships and more men were daily expected. I have now the pleasure to inform you that they are arrived. All this is for your Excellency's advantage, as there is &c. a lasting peace concluded between your Excellency and the English. Your Excellency may be well assured that as long as the terms of the treaty are fulfill'd on your side, our forces, as we have solemnly declared, shall be employed in your service.

No. 61.] From the NABOB, March 4th, 1757.

Your friendly letter upon the occasion of your affairs with the French I have receiv'd and taken due notice of the contents. I shall never give any assistance to the French. If in defiance of all former customs they ever attempt to occasion any disturbance in the King's dominions, I will punish them for it, and put a stop to their commerce in this country. Upon my being informed of your intention of attacking the French factory, I wrote to you what was necessary upon that occasion. The forces which I sent that way were for the protection of y^e royal territories, not for the assistance of the French. It has given me y^e utmost satisfaction that you have wisely consider'd and reflected upon what I wrote you, and that you have a due regard to the establish'd customs in desisting from your designs against the French. I have likewise wrote to the French and made use of all necessary means to engage them to consent to make peace with you, which I make no doubt of their complying with. I shall send a trusty person for both your agreements which I will preserve among my own papers. Be assured I have nothing in view but the promoting the good and peace of the English Company, nor will I ever do anything that may be in the least prejudicial to them. Upon this head you may rest perfectly satisfied. Be you likewise as faithful to your engagements. Give no credit to y^e information of mean and ignorant persons. Whenever you have occasion to write anything concerning your affairs write to me and I will always return you a decisive answer.

Wrote in the Nabob's own hand. The advanced forces of the new King are endeavouring to make an erruption into Bengall, and I propose marching to Aminabad. If you will join with me upon this occasion and go with me, I will allow you every month during the time that you continue with me one laakh of rupees for the maintenance of your army. Write me speedily an answer to this.

No. 62.] To the NABOB, March 7th, 1757.

The letter which you did me the honour to write to me I have receiv'd. I was very inclinable to enter into a neutrality with the French, but I found upon endeavouring to treat with them, they had no powers to make a peace with us till it was confirm'd at Pondicherry, which could not be effected in less than three months. It gave me great concern to find you so strongly insist on the neutrality with the French, which is attended with all the advantages on their side and most prejudicial to us. What we agree to will be immediately binding, but what they agree to will be of no signification till ratified by y^e Governor of Pondicherry, and whilst all our forces are employ'd in assisting you against your enemies, Monsr. Bussy may come and attempt to destroy our settlement. In the last war between us and the French, the Nabob of Arcot order'd the English and French not to commit hostilities in his dominions, and a neutrality was agreed on, which was faithfully observed on our parts. But the French when they were strongest attack'd and took from us Chinapatam: this you must have heard of. How can we put any confidence or reliance in their agreement to a neutrality. To give you a convincing proof of my sincerity, by the time you receive this letter, I shall be as far on the way as Chandernagore, where I will wait, without committing any hostilities against the French, till I receive your letter, which I hope will be satisfactory. If your Excellency will but seriously consider that by going to Patna with you I submit every thing to your pleasure, it can't leave you the least doubt of my intention of sharing with you your good or bad fortune. By the blessing of God you will overcome all your enemies.

No. 63.] To NUNCOMAR, Phousdar's Naib at Hughley, March 8th, 1757.

I am now in peace and friendship with the Nabob, and agreeable to his desire am marching with my army to join him at Muxadabad. I write this that you may not be allarm'd at my approach. Rest assured that I have given the strictest orders that no person in my army shall in any wise molest your tennants, and that any one that shall be found guilty of any offence towards them shall be punished in the severest manner. Do you on your part give orders to all the tennants within your jurisdiction to attend with a bazar to furnish my army with plenty of provisions.

No. 64.] To NUNCOMAR, March 10th, 1757.

I have receiv'd your letter and have consider'd the contents as also what has been communicated to me by Kistnarain Bose. I desire always to hear of your welfare and shall always be ready to show you all the favour in my power. Be it known to all the tennants, merchants, and other inhabitants of the city of Hughley—I have been told that you are terrified at the approach of my army, and have many of you quitted your habitations, and the few that remain are inclin'd to do the same. I am now in peace and alliance with the Nabob. It is therefore I write you this, that you may be at ease and stay with your familys and effects in your habitations. It is not the intention of any of my army to molest you. Be then without fear.

No. 65.] Translation of the NABOB's Letter to the Admiral and Colonel, March 8th, 1757.

The letter which you wrote to me some time ago I have reply'd to. My answer you will consider and write me. Whatever may be necessary thereupon, I remain firm to my agreement. As the Mutsedies have had leave to be absent upon account of the Holie Festival, I have not had time to look at any papers, but shall do it, and then whatever I have sign'd to, I will put in execution. Your Excellency must know that to look over all the papers will require ten or fifteen days. Of what consequence is that. Our family has ever been noted for a strict adherence to their engagements. Be satisfied entirely with respect to my intentions. From the confidence I repose in your Excellency's friendship and honour, I hope you will join with me in preventing the Afghan forces from entering the province and assist me to terminate this affair. What shall I write more.

P.S.—In the Nabob's own hand. Rest satisfied in every particular, what I have written I have never in any respect deviated from.

P.S.—Included—Your Excellency may be perfectly assured that if any enemy commit hostilities against you, I swear by God and his prophet, that I will every way assist you to the utmost of my power. I have never favour'd the French with the value of one cowrie. The forces I sent were for the use of the Phousdar of Hughley and not with any design to assist the French. What power have the French to fight against you. This I hope from your Excellency that you will not act contrary to former customs in committing hostilities upon a rival within my dominions.

No. 66.] To COJA WAZID's Gomastah SEVA BAUBOO, March 12th, 1757.

I have rec'd. your obliging letter. I have always esteem'd Coja Wazid as a very good and just man. If our correspondence has been drop't lately, it is because I have found, that after all our sufferings the French, who have been idle spectators, have been aspiring to reap y^e advantages that we have procured from the Nabob's favour, in which Coja Wazid has been their friend as much as lay in his power, always preferring their interest to ours. I shall be very glad to find him the same friend to y^e English as formerly, he will then always find me ready to cultivate his friendship and do him all y^e service in my power. I shall be always glad to hear of your health.

No. 67.] From NUNCOMAR, March 12th, 1757.

By Lukicondore I am aquainted with the great favour and goodness you have shown me. Whatever I have told Lukicondore he will acquaint you with. He knows my mind in every respect, and I beg you will comply with whatever he may desire on my behalf. By the blessing of God, I have perform'd whatever you desired of me by Kistnarain Bose agreeable to your intentions, the particulars of which he will have the honour to acquaint you with. I shall always have the greatest pleasure in hearing of your health and welfare.

No. 68.] From the NABOB, March y^e 10th, 1757.

The letter Mr. Roger Drake wrote to Manickchund, Manickchund sent to me, and I send it you enclosed as also the letter I write to the Admiral, Charles Watson. In consideration of the great friendship between us, and in compliance with my promises to you, I have deliver'd to Mr. Watts the three lack of rupees, and I will finish the rest of this business in ten or twelve days, then why should Roger Drake write these letters privately. It is not right to do these things after all is settled, and it was by such methods as these, that Roger Drake brought on the war and troubles before. I am determin'd to be true in every respect to my agreement. It is necessary that you should be the same and tell Roger Drake that this is the way to disturb our affairs, and not to do it again. I had determined to begin my march to Patna, the 22nd of the Moon, but when I heard the news of your coming I fixed on the 4th of the next Moon. 'Tis proper that whatever else I have to say to you should be spoke to you alone, or if there should be any delay to your coming, send Dilhur Jung (the Major) that I may speak my mind to him, and send him back to you. Unless some trusty person be sent to me the busy bodys will never cease endeavouring to spread mischief between us.

In the Nabob's own hand. I shall look on yours and the Company's business as my own. I hope it will please God you will never find me deviate in the least from my agreement.

No. 69.] From GOVERNOR DRAKE to MANICKCHUND, March 6th, 1757.

You know very well that formerly the Burdwan mutsuddies and servants carried away and plunder'd a great part of the effects of Calcutta. I therefore write to you that you may be speedy in having those things return'd to me that I may therein know you for my friend. Don't look on it as a triffling affair below your notice, but send me a speedy answer that I may act accordingly.

No. 70.] From the NABOB, March 11th, 1757.

By your letter to Nuncomar I learn your intention of coming to visit me at Muxadabad, which gave me great satisfaction. I am very impatient to have the pleasure of seeing you, and our friendship shall never cease, but be always increasing.

No. 71.] To NUNCOMAR, March 16th, 1757.

The many deceitfull wicked measures that the French have taken to endeavour to deprive me of the Nabob's favour (tho' I thank God they have proved in vain, since His Excellency's friendship towards me is daily increasing) has long made me look on them as enemies to the English. But I could no longer stifle my resentment when I found that notwithstanding the danger they were in from me, they dared to oppose the freedom of the English trade on th Ganges by seizing a boat with an English dustuck and under English colours that was passing by their town. I am therefore come to a resolution to attack them. I am told that some of the Government's forces have been persuaded under promises of great rewards from the French to join them against us. I should be very sorry at a time when I am happy in His Excellency's favour and friendship that I should do any injury to his servants. I am therefore to desire you will send these forces an order to withdraw, and that no others may come to their assistance.

No. 72.] From NUNCOMAR, March 16th, 1757.

Perwannahs from the Nabob to your Excellency and myself I have receiv'd and send yours by Soberam Choubdar. You will please to read them, and for further circumstances I refer you to the Choubdar desiring you will send an answer shortly.

No. 73.] To the NABOB, March 18th, 1757.

I have receiv'd the letter you have done me y^e^ honour to write me, which has given me a satisfaction beyond what I am able to express, as it gives me fresh assurances of the continuance of your friendship. I glory in the confidence you place in me, and shall always be ready to hazard my life for your service, or in giving you any proofs that may convince you of my attachment. I apprehend your Excellency has not receiv'd my letter which accompanyed that from the Admiral, wherein I acquainted you of my being actually on my march to Muxadabad. God only knows how great my desire is to have y^e^ happiness of embracing you, and personally to assure you of the veneration and attachment I bear for Your Excellency. As soon as y^e^ business I have in hand is done, which I hope will be in a very few days, I will send Dilhur Jung to receive you, and shall wait his return to know your orders. He will acquaint you with my sentiments of Mr. Drake's letter to Manickchund. I beg that in the meantime it may not occasion your Excellency to receive any impressions to the disadvantage of the English. The readiness your Excellency shews in complying with the terms of the treaty is conformable to the justice and goodness by which your character is eminently distinguished.

No. 74.] From the NABOB, March 15th, 1757.

As the revolution at Delhi had fully determin'd me to march to Patna I therefore wrote you to come to me, since which some particular affairs, as also on account of the troubles subsisting between you and the French, I defer'd for some few days my departure to Patna. I therefore write you that you put a stop to your coming, and whatever place you are at that you return from thence towards Calcutta. Whenever I go to Patna, and it becomes necessary, I shall, in reliance on the strong friendship between us, write to you to come to me, and I desire you will settle matters with the French, that there be no war in the Ganges. You are a prudent and foreseeing man, and I doubt not but you act as is best for mankind.

No. 75.] From the NABOB, March 15th, 1757.

By the blessing of God I have now letters of peace from Amhad Khaun Abdally, and I have also wrote him answers and the resolution I had taken of marching to Patna is alter'd. I look on this blessing as the effect of my friendship with you. I therefore write you that you need not give yourself the trouble of coming. I have great pleasure in your friendship. Since on a single letter of mine you were ready to come to my assistance I make no doubt that whenever I shall desire you to come and assist me, you will be ready to join me; therefore I now write you that you need not give yourself the trouble of coming.

No. 76.] From the NABOB, March 15th, 1757.

I have often before wrote to you that you should not make war with the French. I am steady to my agreement and have therefore paid Mr. Watts 3 lack of rupees, and have given to Mr. Watts the perwannahs necessary for the trade of all your factorys as his letters will inform you. It was for the good of my subjects and of my country that I have made peace. If war is still to subsist how can my country flourish. It is not proper that you should ever fight in the river. Let there be peace between you in some manner, and I shall be very well pleas'd, if not I shall be displeas'd. Since the factorys have subsisted, there never was any war in the river. If you persist in making war, I shall from thence conclude you have no intention of trading in this country and that you seek for a pretence to raise troubles. I send Mutramul to you whom I have great confidence in. He shall settle peace between you and the French. By this you will know it must be done.

In his own hand. It is proper you should look on this country as your own, and not make war in the river.

No. 77.] From NUNCOMAR, March 18th, 1757.

I have had the pleasure to receive the letter you sent me by Kistnarain Bose. I have wrote the Nabob agreeable to your letter, and whatever else I thought proper on the occasion. Mutramull is now arrived from the Nabob's presence with perwannahs to you. He does not know where your army is encamp'd, I therefore write you this that you may send a person to conduct him to you with the Nabob's perwannahs. When you have had a conference with him, whatever you write me I will write accordingly to the Nabob. You'll do me a pleasure in writing me of your health.

No. 78.] From NUNCOMAR, March 18th, 1757.

I am now inform'd that 400 soldiers and tellinghers* are arrived. I am unacquainted with what intent they are come. I make no doubt but the peace will be observ'd on both sides, then what are they come for? I write you this that you may inform me immediately of this affair. I shall be ready to agree to assist you in anything in my power.

No. 79.] To the NABOB, March 20th, 1757.

It is with the utmost surprise and concern that I read the contents of your Excellency's letter, so different from those kind and gracious ones that I have hitherto always receiv'd with the greatest pleasure. This change must proceed from y^{e} councils of wicked and self-interested men, who are not actuated by any zeal for your welfare, but in the advice they give seek their own profit. It shocks me to think what falsities my enemies make use of to deprive me of your favour. God is my judge that I will be firm and steady to my promises, and that I shall be always ready to support you with my life and all the forces I have against all the enemies of your Government. There is not a man in your Durbar who is more sincere and zealous in his attachment to your interest and welfare than myself. Let this have its proper weight with you, and I am sure you will not be under any fear at the news you have heard of Monsr. Bussy. I am no boaster, it is not my character, but I will venture to say that half the forces I have is sufficient for any army he can bring against you. You may judge of his strength from this, that he march'd against our factory at Vizzagapatam which is little better than a house, and has only one hundred men in it, and turn'd back again without daring to attack it. What power has he to enter this country: he can never do it. I beseech Your Excellency that my enemies may not, by their evil insinuations and false stories, rival me in your Excellency's friendship, nor make you determine (that for so small a place already more than half conquer'd and that must be mine in a day or two at farthest) my honour and reputation shall be called in question. I, who to this day have, by the blessing of God, been victor in every battle I have fought, and have had a happy issue to all my undertakings. Be assured you will always find me sincere in my attachment to you. Let me have a place in your breast that is enlighten'd like the sun, and look on me as one always ready to loose the last drop of my blood in your service. As peace is more desirable than war, I therefore rejoice that you have settled affairs with the new King. It was agreeable to your desire that I began my march to assist you against your enemies as it has been my misfortune to loose your friendship and favour. As soon as the business I have in hand is over, I shall return to Calcutta, where I shall remain and pray for your health and prosperity. Whatever you have desired of me that I have always done. Mutramul, from what he has seen and what I have communicated to him, will acquaint you in private with the further particulars.

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* *Tilangá*, H. *Telangá.*—A native of Tilang, from whom the first native soldier, dressed and disciplined after the European fashion, having been raised, it come to denote a soldier a *Sipáhi.*—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

No. 80.] From SEVA BAUBOO, March 20th, 1757.

I have receiv'd with pleasure the favour of your letter, in which you wrote me that in consideration of the losses the Company had sustain'd, the Nabob had been pleas'd to grant you many indulgences, but that the French who had suffer'd nothing, were endeavouring to obtain for themselves what advantages we expected from the Nabob's justice, in which my master Tukara Sooja assisted them with his interest, and that when Tukara Sooja should be ready to promote the interest of the English Company, you would be ready to cultivate his friendship. Tukara Sooja has always befriended the three Companys, and has never spared any pains, nor never will to promote as much as in his power all their interests. Whoever has told you that he shews his friendship for the French only has invented and told you falsities. Whenever I shall have y^{e} pleasure to see you I will communicate the rest to you in private.

No. 81.] From the NABOB, March 18th, 1757.

The agreement that has been so firmly settled between us, I thank God, has not been any way deviated from on my side, and I mean firmly to adhere to it. But you, notwithstanding your agreement, and notwithstanding my forbidding it and contrary to all former customs you persist in making war in the river; therefore as I am the Governor of the King's provinces, and that his subjects who pay the revenues may not be trod under foot by your army I have determined to march that way. But if you mean to carry on the Company's business, put a stop to the war on y^{e} river and carry on your trade as formerly, for which purpose I have given all the necessary orders. I am always ready to assist you on every side. God and his prophet are always present to me in all my actions. The war shall never be begun on my side, yet it is necessary that I should be carefull of my subjects.

No. 82.] From NUNCOMAR, March 22nd, 1757.

I have not had the pleasure of hearing from you these four or five days which gives me great concern. I now send Kistnarain Bose to wait on you. I have entrusted to him, to acquaint you with everything. From him you will know in what light I have represented affairs to the Nabob, and beg the favour you will acquaint him with whatever you may have to communicate to me, that I may continue to represent these affairs to the Nabob in a still better light. I don't doubt but you'll freely acquaint me with your sentiments.

No. 83.] To RAJAH ROY DULLUB, March 22nd, 1757.

I hear you are arrived within 25 miles of Hughley. Whether you are come as a friend or an enemy I know not, if as the latter say so at once, and I'll send some out to fight you immediately. If as the former, I beg you will stay where you are, for we can conquer the enemies we have to deal with here if they were ten times stronger. I have always had the greatest friendship for the Nabob ever since the treaty has been concluded, and I have ever since been resolv'd to fight for him against all his enemies. If he breaks his agreement with us, which he has solemnly sworn to, and to which you have put your seal as well as several other great men, the fault is his, for the agreement is mutual which says that our enemies shall be his, and his ours. I now declare to you the French are our greatest enemies, and I will destroy them. It would give me great concern to see these troubles begin which must be fatal to one party, which God above knows. Now you know my mind.

No. 84.] To the Nabob, March 22nd, 1757.

Mutramul carrys my answer to your several perwannahs that I rec'd. with great pleasure; by this you will be acquainted with my sincere attachment to your Excellency. If you are determin'd to march this way I cannot forbid it, but I should be very sorry to see the troubles renew'd; as I persuade myself you will have pleasure in hearing good tidings from me. I therefore write this to inform you that hitherto I have only made use of musquetry against the French, but tomorrow early I shall open my batteries, and the ships will begin their fire, so that by the blessing of God I hope the place will be our own tomorrow.

I this day heard of Roy Dullub's march. I am much obliged to you, but in this case have no occasion for assistance.

I pray that your Excellency may be ever victorious over your real enemies and that God may bless you with health and prosperity.

No. 85.] To the Nabob, March 23rd, 1757.

I thank God to-day the 4th of the week and the 2nd of the Moon Rajup at 2 gurries day, we began our fire on the French. By his blessing and y^e influence of your favour I was in possession of their fort at 6 gurries day. As I am persuaded you will be pleas'd at my success, therefore I thought proper and necessary to send you the particulars of this victory. My heart's earnest in your interest, and shall always be ready with my own life and that of my whole army to drive away your enemies. I hope that by your Excellency's favour all our enemies in your country will fall into our hands.

No. 86.] To Nuncomar, March 24th, 1757.

Your agreeable letter, in which you acquaint me that you hear the French fort is in our possession, and as y^e Nabob's favour towards you is daily increasing, therefore you desire I will satisfie y^e Nabob's subjects at Hughley; that Kistnarain Bose is sent to me to be acquainted with all the particulars, and that he will acquaint me with whatever you have to request of me. I have receiv'd and consider'd the contents. The French fort fell into our hands yesterday. Kistnarain Bose will in private communicate to you all that I have told him. Let your heart be at ease, and carry on your business as usual and satisfie the Nabob's subjects of Hughley, that they may be assured no harm is intended them. From the friendship between us, I expect that you give me up all French property in your power, and acquaint me what of their effects are come to your knowledge. In so doing you will give me great pleasure.

Govindram Bose Tellogdar and other inhabitants of the town Colsanny in the district of Burro. Be it known to you that I have been informed that you are leaving your habitations in apprehension of my army. I therefore write you that you may know that no people of mine shall go into your or any other villages. Let your heart be at ease, carry on your business and pay the King's revenue as usual, and no man of mine shall molest you. By this you'll know it must be done.

No. 87.] To the Nabob, March 24th, 1757.

I have receiv'd your gracious letter of the first of the Moon Rajup wherein you desire that I will not thro' the misrepresentation of bad men be persuaded to receive any ill impressions on account of Roy Dullub's march, who may have dispatch'd to collect in y^{e} revenues of the Burdwaun province. Permit me to request the same on my part, that you will not be displeas'd at the march of 600 seepoys whom I have sent to overtake 100 French soldiers that have made their escape. They have orders to go as far as Nia Sawy, and to be very carefull not to molest any of your Excellency's subjects on the way, nor permit my enemies to make use of this to my disadvantage. But as they are never ceasing their endeavours to deprive me of y^{e} honour of your friendship, I am therefore determin'd to send Dilhur Jung to you in a day or two accompanyed by another Englishman. I beg you will receive him as myself and place confidence in everything he shall communicate to you on my behalf. I have given the severest orders to all my people not to molest any of your subjects, nor shall any of them dare to frown on them. Should any of your Rajahs or great Jemidars refuse to pay the revenues, I am ready at your desire to send any force you please to subdue them. Monseram, whom you have been pleased to send to me, is not yet arrived.

No. 88.] From the Nabob, March 23rd, 1757.

I am enter'd into a Treaty with you which I have sign'd and seal'd to and intend to keep firm to, and never intend to deviate from. I have comply'd with all Mr. Watts has proposed to me except a very few articles which I hope will be finish'd by the 15th of the month, as Mr. Watts will write you, and notwithstanding this I am told you are doing many things contrary to the Treaty, that you are treading under foot the towns on the Hughley side and provinces of Burdwaun and Nuddea. Why is this, and upon this Govinram Metre has sent a letter by Ramdeb Gose's son, that as Goli Grant is annex'd to Calcutta that it be put in his power. . What am I to think of this. I am persuaded you know nothing of it. It was in full confidence that the Treaty would be observ'd that I made peace. I had in view the good of my subjects and expected to receive the King's revenues, not that my subjects should be trod under my foot. It is proper that you should act in such ways that our friendship might daily gather strength, and that the busy mischief-makers should have no room to spread their evil reports. Shew Metre your resentment and take care that Roger Drake by speaking severely to him he do not fall into such errors again. I hope in God you will never find me false to my promise. I have spoke and explain'd to Mr. Watts a number of particulars that his letters will acquaint you with.

Enclosed—I am told that the French forces are coming from the ports of Dekan to fight you, I therefore write you this that if you should have any occasion for the assistance of my forces that you write me speedily; that they may be with you in time.

No. 89.] To Govinram Metre, March 28th, 1757.

I have receiv'd several letters from the Nabob all complaining that you give great trouble to the inhabitants of the Government villages near Calcutta, and I hear from many hands that you greatly distress the inhabitants of Calcutta, I therefore write you that you be very cautious, for if I ever hear of the like complaints I shall take such measures that such actions shall not pass unpunish'd. By this you will know it must be done.

No. 90.] From the Nabob. Rec^{d} the March 29th, 1757.

The particulars of your victory at Francedangy which I had long been impatient to hear gave me inexpressible pleasure. I thank God that your enemies so easily fell into your hands, and that their great place is fallen into your hands. You have now no longer any uneasiness on this account. It has pleas'd God to make you and all your friends happy in this great victory. It is now proper that you should give strict orders forbidding any of your people molesting the inhabitants in and about Hughley, or they will run away and the revenues will suffer greatly. Give Nuncomar such assurances that his heart may be at ease, and that he may collect the revenues without fear. I have told Zub Datoot Tuja, Mr. Watts, many particulars which you will learn from his letters.

No. 91.] From JUGGAT SEAT, no date. Rec^{d}. March 29th, 1757.

The obliging letter which you have with so much friendship wrote I have receiv'd with great pleasure. I always look on you as my friend and never spare nor never shall spare any pains to promote your business. Mr. Watts shews me great favour. Whatever he desires me regarding the Company's business I look on the trouble attending it as a real pleasure. I have always the greatest pleasure in Mr. Watts's goodness and friendly behaviour. I hope that you will always look on me as your sincere friend and favour me with your kind and friendly letters, which will always give me the greatest pleasure.

No. 92.] MUTATIS MUTANDIS.

No. 93.] To the NABOB, March 29th, 1757.

I have had the pleasure of your Excellency's letter wherein you assure me of the great joy you have had on the news of my success. While I have your good wishes attending my undertakings, I am without fear for the event. It is in your Excellency's power now to settle the peace of your kingdom on a solid foundation by completing the good work so far advanced. From what I have often wrote your Excellency that it was almost impossible that there can be a lasting peace in your kingdom while there are two such powerful nations in it, because whenever a war breaks out between our two Kings they would not fail to extend the effects of it to these parts, endeavouring to drive each other from their settlements in Bengal. As also the French are a most ambitious and treacherous people as is evident from their behaviour in Golconda. All these circumstances make it absolutely necessary that your Excellency should deliver up to us the persons and effects of the French at Cossimbazar, and their other out-settlements, as being our enemies. We shall then be without rivals, and all our force ready to obey your commands, and assist you in punishing all those who shall dare to molest the peace of your kingdom.

No. 94.] To the NABOB, March 29th, 1757, at the request of NUNCOMAR.

Nuncomar has visited me and given me full assurances of your grace and friendship towards me, which has given me inexpressible satisfaction, and I pray to God that he may increase your power and dominion. I am and ever shall be punctual in the performance of my Treaty with you, and am always ready to assist you in driving away your enemies. Nuncomar's visit gave me great pleasure, as he is a very good and just man, which must have procured him the favour he enjoys in your Excellency's service. Whenever he shall desire any assistance from me in the Government I shall be ready to assist him.

No. 95.] From the NABOB, no date. Rec^{d}. March 29th, 1757.

Your agreeable letter wherein you write me that one hundred soldiers are run from the French factory, that therefore you have sent six hundred men to take them as high as Nia Sawy, and that you intended to send Dilhur Jung and another Englishman with him to me, and that he should tell me that you are ready to assist me against any Rajahs that shall dare refuse paying the revenues, and that Monseram is not arrived, I have received. I make no doubt the seapoys that went in pursuit of the French soldiers are now returned. It is not convenient that Dilhur Jung should come here at present. If it please God as soon as the Punnah[*] is over I will send the purwannah in his name to invite him here, at which time he will set out. The Rajahs and Zemidars of Bengal have not such power that I need write to you to punish them. I shall apply to you when I have great wars. Monseram is by this time arrived. Mr. Watts is here on your behalf; give credit to whatever he may write you, but don't believe the reports of self-interested men. There are many men about me that endeavour to make us displeased with each other, but I will never regard them. I have spoke many particulars to Mr. Watts as you will know from his letters.

No. 96.] From Suraja Dowla, Bahadar Omdee Al Mulluck, Nabob of Arcot, no date.

By advices from the Madrass Governour I am informed that you have pass'd the seas with your army, and that you have put to shame and confusion the armies of the Nizam of Bengal in such manner as you thought fit, and that you have taken and restored Calcutta to its former flourishing condition. When I heard you had done these things by your princely wisdom and bravery, it gave me pleasure beyond description that knew no bounds, thus by your wisdom, bravery, and good conduct, the Chiefs of the Company shall find themselves happier and stronger than they were before. The fame of your victory shall spread over the world, and your character shine with redoubled splendor. We have always been in friendship together, therefore write me of your health and let our friendship increase. What I shall say more?

No. 97.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob of Arcot, dated March 30th, 1757.

I have with great pleasure your friendly letter. But how shall I express my concern at the ill state of your health. I hear you have since suffer'd. It is in the utmost warmth of friendship and sincerity that I assure you that when[‡]

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23rd at 6 in the morning and at 8 they surrendered. Besides many cannon and war-like stores, we have taken prisoners a hundred gentlemen and seven hundred soldiers. I flatter myself that we shall leave no enemies in this country, and hope to have the pleasure to embrace you very soon, and carry to your assistance a powerful and victorious army. The Nabob of this country respects us and is executing his Treaty as fast as he can. I enclose you his letter to me on the taking of the French fort. You are always present to my mind and I am ever wishing you health and happiness.

No. 98.] To Juggat Seat, March 31st, 1757.

I am favour'd with your friendly and obliging letter. I doubt not but you will now shew yourself the same friend as formerly to the English Company, and that we shall in you find the same kind mediator between the Government and the Company. I shall retain a grateful remembrance of any service, you do[‡]

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[*] Punnah, properly Punyá. Corruptly Puneah, vernacular corruption of Punyáha, q. v. H. In lower provinces the day on which the revenue for the ensuing year is settled, or an annual meeting of the direct revenue-payers at the office of the chief collector, or of the cultivating tenants at the court of the zamindar to determine the amount of the assessment; the assemblage of the rent-payers forming a kind of festival or holiday. The term is also applied to the day on which the first instalment of the annual rent or revenue is paid: in some parts of Bengal zamindárí accounts and receipts are antedated if the Punyá instalment has not been discharged, *i. e.*, if the rent for the Bengal year 1249 had been paid before the Punyá of that year it would be entered as paid in 1248.

Punyáha, Hindi, Mar. A holiday, a sacred day, or one on which religious observances are enjoined; also the day on which the rent or revenue for the ensuing year is first settled, or on which the first instalment is paid.—*Wilson's Glossary of India Terms.*

A portion is torn off this letter.

Two such powerful nations as the French and ourselves could never continue in this country without disturbances. The French are an ambitious people and would have acted the same here as on the Coast, whenever they could have an opportunity to bring forces into the country. You are a wise and prudent man must be sensible how ruinous that would be. If you will look into what was pass'd on the Coast you will find the French have possess'd themselves of provinces, while we have lent 120 lacks of rupees in support of the lawful Prince, of which he is now indebted to us 65 lacks. You will find that our arms have always been employed for justice and for the support of our trade. We now only want a punctual execution of our Treaty with the Nabob to set down and carry on our trade as usual in our own place. Always let me hear of your health.

No. 99.] To the NABOB, March 30th, 1757.

I have just now the honour of your obliging letter, and agreeable to your desire have deferr'd sending the Major to you; and as I shall always make it my endeavour to shew you my sincerity, and from adherence to the Treaty in all my actions, so (as it your desire) I will in a very few days, as soon as a place can be got ready for them in Calcutta, withdraw the greatest part of my troops. The remainder shall keep at Chandernagore as being the more healthy place, and also that Calcutta is in too ruinous a condition to receive my whole army.

As I have never yet deviated in the least point from the friendship, I am amazed your Excellency should give such ear to my enemies as to think I had any intentions in moving with my army to the north of Chandernagore. I once more swear by the God that made me, that I ever will be true to all that I have promis'd, and that I have nothing more at heart than that the friendship between your Excellency and the English may last for ever. I hope I shall find your Excellency's heart the same, and that you will shortly fulfill all your engagements, and that the English from your justice will have ample restitution of all their losses, and by once more settling themselves down to trade, contribute to the increase of the revenues, and to make your kingdom florish.

There wants nothing now to fix the peace of your kingdom, but that you should deliver up to us the French with their effects, wherever they are to be found in your dominions. For remember my words Sir,—let them take deep root in your mind, that whenever there are two such powerful nations, the peace of your country cannot be lasting. Cast your eyes on the Dekan and Carnetick country, and see what thousands of the Mogul's subjects, what sums of money, what populous and magnificent cities have been lost by their taking opposite parts in the wars there.

Your Excellency has now an opportunity of preventing the same unhappy scene ever passing in this country by entirely driving them out of it, and it will be always in our power to keep them so. What matters it whether the revenues of your country proceed from the trade of one or two nations, so that the amount be but the same. I have just receiv'd your letter of the 8th of the Moon. Surely Nuncomar must have wrote you long e'er this, that I never intend the least injury to the inhabitants of Hughley.

Is there a single subject of yours that can prove the English army has done him the least injury? However, not to leave the least room for complaint agreeable to your desire, the greatest part of my army will remove to Calcutta very soon; the ships are already moving. As to Chandernagore we do not want further possessions in this country, being well satisfied with what we already have. We mean only to prevent the French, who are your enemies as well as ours, from ruining this country. For which purpose we mean utterly to destroy the fortifications of Francedangy, and then give the place up to your orders to do as you think proper, providing you never restore it to our enemies.

No. 100.] From the NABOB, March 28th. Rec^{d} March 31st, 1757.

I make no doubt but you will agreeable to my letters put a stop to Dilhur Jung's coming. It were better that you should put a stop to the sending or coming yourself, and return to Calcutta, when 'tis proper I'll call you myself.

Never determine on sending anybody till I call them, least unknown to me he should receive any insult from my people which might hurt our friendship.

No. 101.] From the NABOB, March 29th. Rec^{d} March 31st, 1757.

God and his Prophet are witnesses to the agreement between us, and I shall firmly abide by it. Your troubles with the French are over. Why are you come on the Hughley side I cannot find out. It is necessary that you should regard the Treaty between us, and return to Calcutta; then the inhabitants of Hughley will return to their houses without fear, and the country about Hughley will flourish.

If you want the French factory it is well. Whatever they paid into the Treasury write to Mr. Watts to make good here, and it is very well then you keep possession of the factory. But if it be agreeable to you, it will be shewing yourself a man of great mind to give it up to them that they may carry on their trade as before. Write me an immediate answer.

No. 102.] From RAJAH DULLUB RAM, March 29th. Rec^{d} March 31st, 1757.

Your friendly letter, wherein you wrote that you hear I am arriv'd within ten coss of Hughley; that you don't know whether I am come as a friend or an enemy; that if I am come as an enemy to give you a plain answer that you may send people to fight me, as a friend to stay where I am, because you have no occasion for assistance against your enemies; that you have great respect for the Nabob; that there is an agreement between you signed by both, and myself, and other great men; that if he breaks it the fault is on his side; that the French are your great enemies and that you will destroy them; that if the troubles are renewed you shall be very sorry for it; and that it must be bad for one party, you don't know which, and therein I have known your mind, I have with pleasure receiv'd and am acquainted with the particulars. The news was false and untrue, and I wonder that you should have wrote me in such a hurry. The Bishenpore Raja having a great ballance of his revenues to pay which he refuses to do. A great ballance of the Burdwan country. The reports of Monsr. Bussy's coming to the assistance of the French by the way of Cuttack, in that case to support Rajaram Sing's army and Sirnaum Sing, Zemidar, who is with a large force and great provisions of warlike stores at Ballasore and Midnapore.

It was for these causes the Nabob sent me here the first of the Moon of Rajup, that I might be at Cutwar the 8th. My thoughts are bent on these things. My being come as your enemy is false. The favour the Nabob shews from his heart for you, I dare say you are very sensible of. To be false to a promise is bad in low men, how would it then be if great men were to break their words. I dare say the Government will be true to the Treaty, because by the flourishing of your settlement the whole country will florish.

It is necessary that you should firmly adhere to your promise, and that you should befriend Nuncomar, that the tenants of Hughley may return. There will soon be a Phousdar appointed for Hughley. You must assist him likewise, and you must take care that Monsr. Bussy does not enter this country and raise troubles.

No. 103.] From COJA WAZEED. Rec^{d} March 31st, 1757.

The favourable letter you wrote to my servant Seva Bauboo has been communicated to me by him, and I am become acquainted with the contents. I am greatly concerned that you should be angry and displeas'd with me, who am known to all the world to have always been a friend to the English Company and their agents. I am afraid that the representation of my enemies have made you thus angry with me without reason, what shall I do? I cannot at this time pay my respects to you, or I would clear up all in your presence, and the wicked men that have done me these ill offices would be put to shame. Notwithstanding you having withdrawn your favour from me I am as much their friend as ever. I shall never, since your war with the French, spoke any further to the Nabob than that it would be well if there was peace between you, and that it would be good for all. And before this in your other affairs, by the blessing of God, whatever I asked and sought for the good of the Company has been done, and this is certain that I have always thought them the best of my friends, and that I shall spare no pains in doing them any service in my power. But I am afraid that self-interested men for their own views don't like to see friendship between us. As they likewise want to persuade me you are not my friend, but I never gave credit to them. I hope in God you will do the same. May the lamp of friendship ever flame between us.

In his own hand—It is only where we hope for friendship that we suffer any uneasiness and vexation; where there's no friendship there can be no concern. As I have a friendship of long date with the English, and knew them to be true and sincere in their friendship, it is therefore I write this from the sincerity of my heart; don't think otherwise of it. If it is not inconvenient send me a person of confidence that I may by him give you assurances of the reality of my friendship. It is proper you should send such a one to me, or else calm the uneasiness of Seva Bauboo, and favour him with calling him to you, and he who is the friend to the English, and he will speak to you the words of friendship, and you'll be pleas'd with him.

No. 104.] To OMICHUND, April 3rd, 1757.

From Mr. Watts's letters, and from what I learn from other people, I am convinc'd of the pains you take to bring the Company's affairs to an happy issue. Continue the same good endeavours and I shall be always ready to do you all the service in my power.

No. 105.] To COJA WAZEED, April 3rd, 1757.

I have received your friendly letter, and shall be very glad to see Seva Bauboo, or any other person from you.

No. 106.] From the NABOB, March 24th, 1757. Rec^{d} April 6th.

Seeing you take great pleasure in hunting I have therefore sent you two leopards extremely good at catching deer. Muterhamull carries them to you. Their keepers, who attend them after having made them run before you, will give them over in charge to your servants.

No. 107.] To the NABOB, April 6th, 1757.

I have had the honour of your Excellency's letter dated the 12th of the Moon Rudjub (24th March).

Dewan Nuncomar has visited me and spoke much of your Highness's favour towards me, of which I am truly convinced and return you my most hearty thanks. Your other favour of the same date I have also receiv'd, my answer to which must have reached you. I have open'd my mind fully to the Dewan, which no doubt he communicate to you. Believe me ever ready to assist and serve your Excellency when your affairs may require it, as I remain fixt in my resolution ever to adhere steadily to the Treaty I have made.

The perfidious and underhand practices of the French are well known to everybody. I therefore hope your ears will be ever shut to any thing malicious people may endeavour to insinuate in their favour. Of all the goods and effects taken at Calcutta belonging to the Company and the inhabitants, &c., not a tenth part fell into your hands. Whatever therefore Manickchund and those under him got at that place I trust you'll order him to restore. Should he plead the impossibility of doing this, let me request you will order him to repay whatever he himself received, and to send me those men who were employed under him that I may recover of them what they took.

No. 108.] From SEAT MAHTUB RAY. Rec^{d} April 7th, 1757.

By the goodness of God, he who is the light of my eyes and dear to me as my life, my son, the rich Seat Khoshall Chund (whom God preserve) is married. May God grant that you may also rejoice at this his happy marriage. 'Tis on this account that according to our custom I have sent you a suit of rich gold-worked cloth, which as my friendship with the Company is of long standing, I hope you will be so kind as to oblige me by your acceptance of. May God grant you long life and prosperity.

From Seat Martub Ray to Colonel Clive. Rec^{d} April 7th, 1757.

By the goodness of God, he who is the light of my eyes and dear to me as my life, my son, the rich Seat Odychund (whom God preserve) is married. May God grant that you may also rejoice at this happy marriage. 'Tis on this account that according to our custom I have sent you a rich suit of rich gold-worked cloth, which as my friendship with the Company is of long-standing, I hope you will be so kind as to oblige me by your acceptance of. May God grant you long life and prosperity.

No. 109.] From Seat Martub Ray to Colonel Clive. Rec^{d}. April 7th, 1757.

My faithful and capable assistant Rungeet Roy, who has long continued with me, and who went to wait upon you, on his return spoke so much in your praise, and represented the kindness you shew'd him in such high terms as justly merit my most hearty thanks. May God ever continue to you with your health so much goodness, and according to my wishes exalt you still higher.

No. 110.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive, April 1st, Rec^{d}. April 8th, 1757.

I have received your letters and observe its contents. Ever since your friendship with me commenced, by God's assistance, I've observ'd strictly, and rely with confidence on your adherence to the Treaty.

It is almost a year since I have enjoy'd the diversion of hunting, but now trusting in your friendship I have for a while retired to some distance from Muxadavad to follow this sport, and purpose returning again thither in a week hence.

To observe both the contents of the letter sent by Monseram, and what he was desir'd to tell me by word of mouth, and am much pleased with your earnest wishes for my welfare. The letter I wrote you before this must have reached you. I wait your answer, and beg you will also write to Mr. Watts, who is a very understanding and capable man. When I have received your letters and am also informed by Mr. Watts of your desire you may depend upon my acting as is most proper.

No. 111.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive, April 4th. Rec^{d}. April 8th, 1757.

I received your letters and observe what you desire in regard to the French factories and their goods. I address you seeing you are a man of wisdom and knowledge, and well acquainted with the customs and trade of the world, and you must know that the French, by the permission and phirmaund of the King, have built their several factories and carried on their trade in this kingdom. I cannot therefore, without hurting my character and exposing myself to trouble hereafter, deliver up their goods and factories unless I have a written order from them for so doing, and I'm persuaded that from your friendship for me you w'd never be glad at any thing where my fame would suffer, as I, on my own part, am ever desirous of promoting your good.

Mr. Rennault, the French Governor, being in your power, if you could get from him a paper under his own hand and seal to this purpose, that of his own will and pleasure he thereby gave up to the English Company's servants and empowered them to receive all the factories, money, and goods belonging to the French Company without any hindrance from the Nabob's people and would send this to me, I should be secure by that from any trouble hereafter on that account. But it is absolutely necessary you come to some agreement about the King's duties arising on the French trade, for this reason that there may be no loss to the King. I shall then be able to answer to his servants, that in order to make good the King's duties accruing from the French trade, I had delivered up their factories into the possession of the English.

No. 112.] To the Nabob, April 8th, 1757, at Nuncoarm's desire.

I had the honor of your Excellency's letter, wherein you observe that as the French had by the King's phirmaund built their several factories in this kingdom you could not without injuring your character deliver up their factories and goods unless you had a written order from them; but that if I would send you an order from Mr. Rennault you would have no trouble afterwards to apprehend on this account. That it was also necessary to come to some agreement for making good the duties arising on the French trade. All the Europeans agreeable to the King's phirmaund have settled their several factories in the different provinces of the Empire.

The French and we are almost continual at war together. In any of the provinces when any place belonging to the French has been taken by the English, or if the French possessed themselves of any place of ours, the Governor of that province never offered to detain the subordinate factories or goods belonging to either, nor ever required a written order for their delivery. Now that I have granted terms to Mr. Rennault, and that he is under my protection, it is contrary to our custom after this ever to use violences, and without it how would he ever of his own will and pleasure write to desire you to deliver up his master's property. Weigh the justice of this in your own mind. Notwithstanding we have received the French so low, you contrary to your own interest and to the Treaty you have made that my enemies should be yours still support and encourage them. But should you think it would hurt your character to deliver up the French factories and goods, your Excellency has only to signify to me your approbation and I'll march up and take them.

You must be sensible there never will be peace and security in your province while the French continue in it, as they will ever be raising disturbances which must end in the ruin of your country and its inhabitants. On the first intimation that you stood in need of my assistance your Highness can't forget how ready I was to obey your commands, and to set out to join you against your enemies. How different is your conduct in protecting my enemies from your professions of favour and kindness to me. Chandernagore being their chief settlement, to which all their other factories are subordinate, I expected after having taken it and made their Governor prisoner that you would have delivered the rest into my hands, and till such times as the factories and goods belong to the French are delivered into my hands, whatever we have hitherto done will avail us but little, and therefore your Highness will consider well that I will not do things by halves. I never have nor shall deviate from the articles of my agreement, and I am far from desiring the King's revenues should be lessened. To prevent this I shall consult with the Admiral, Governour, and Council, and write you the result. What else I had to say I've told to Nuncomar, who will communicate it to you.

No. 113.] To the Nabob, April 10th, 1757.

I wrote your Excellency a day or two ago wherein I represented to your Excellency how contrary it is to the custom of a European nation to force Mr. Rennault to do what is disagreeable or hurtful to his Company and their affairs. As you are a man of great sense you will at once see the unreasonableness of this request, and be satisfied with my engaging to make good to your Excellency the King's customs arising on the French trade, and taking care that the empire suffer nothing by the taking of Chandernagore, and the delivery of the French their factories and effects. This I promise to do as long as they are kept out of the country.

I went to Calcutta yesterday on purpose to settle this matter with the Governour, Admiral, and Council, and to convince you how much I have your reputation and interest at heart. I thank God this business is done, and your Excellency may be easy on that account.

It gives me great concern to find there is so much delay in fulfilling the articles of peace. It is a long time since your Excellency promised to fulfill everything in fifteen days; twice that time is passed, and most of the material articles as far from being put into execution as ever. Every day I receive complaints on this subject. I therefore take the liberty of putting down in writing what parts of the Treaty so solemnly sworn to, I desire may be complied with.

1st. That the guns and ammunition taken at Cossimbazar and the other subordinates be restored.

2nd. Purwannahs through the country, especially at Dacca, for the currency of our business.

3rd. Purwannahs for the currency of siccas coined at Calcutta *alias* Alenagur.

4th. Purwannahs for the thirty-eight villages.

5th. Purwannahs for returning everything taken at the different aurungs and factories.

I now call upon your Excellency in the name of God and his Prophet to fulfill the articles, and I further call upon your Excellency in the most sincere manner to put an entire confidence in the English, and to believe they will never forsake you. Things are come to such a pass now that the French must be expell'd your province, or the English can never be assured of friendship. I conclude this letter with declaring before God and his Prophet Jesus, that if you will comply with the contents of this letter and be a true friend to the English, that I will in all respects act conformable to your wish and join you against your enemies.

No. 114.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, April 6th. Rec^d. April 10th, 1757.

I have receiv'd successively your several letters and rejoice to hear that you are well. You express in your letters your intentions that our agreement should be more deeply rooted, and desire that conformable to the articles I would speedily settle every thing regarding our factories and the clearance of our business. That I would deliver up to you all the French Company's factories with their goods; that you heard that all who ran away from thence were coming to enter into my service, on which account you were suspicious of my favouring them, and that I had no intentions of continuing in friendship with the English, because having before wrote to desire your assistance I had now forbid your coming. By the goodness of God the Treaty, as it ought, continues firm on each of our sides, and will become more and more so every day. Rest satisfied that what regards the business of your factories shall be soon settled. We will never recede from our agreement. I have already wrote you fully as to the French factories and their goods. Lest my letter should have miscarried I now enclose you a copy of it. Be assured if your answer is agreeable I'll act according to what I wrote. You are wise and discerning, tell me for what end should I entertain in my pay any of the French deserters, or what service could I hope from them. Wicked men report these falsities to you. I beg you will never believe what such men say.

At the time I wrote for your assistance I had then another affair in view. Should I ever have such business in view again, I'll certainly write to you for your forces, and hope you'll act accordingly.

Having occasion for timbers and teak planks, being informed there are such as I want in Chandernagore, reflecting that there is no difference betwixt us, 't is with freedom I write to desire you'll send me 25 whole timbers and 200 teak plank, and at the same time their invoice that I may pay the amount to Mr. Watts. By doing so you'll afford me much satisfaction.

No. 115.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, April 11th. Rec^d. April 14th, 1757.

I have received your agreeable letter wherein you profess your sincere regard and friendship, your firmness to your agreement and desire of assisting me, that I would not listen to the malicious insinuations of wicked men. That you have received not one-tenth part of what was taken at Calcutta, and requesting that I would inquire and try to recover this money, &c., or else send those who had received it to you. The news of your health and attachment to the

Treaty affords me much pleasure. I never attend to malicious stories, and am true and steady to my agreement, nor will I ever recede from what I and my Dewan have both seal'd. But in it there is nothing regarding the demands you make on others. If it had been so, I would certainly have acted conformably. It becomes you a soldier of so great bravery and generosity to take care nothing should be superadded to the articles agreed on, that I may have no cause to be displeased. I observe what Nuncomar has wrote by your desire concerning the French goods. It is much for my advantage, but the French Company being indebted to my subjects lacks of rupees, should I do so as Nuncomar has wrote what answer shall I make to the just demands of these their creditors.

No. 116.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, dated April 15th, 1757.

I have been favoured with your Excellency's two letters of the 6th and 11th of April. In my last I acquainted you with the several articles of the Treaty you made with us still unexecuted, which I desired might be speedily executed, and I hope it is in great measure by this time. I likewise informed you that I had got the Admiral, Governour, and Council to consent that in case you delivered up the French, their factories and effects, we should engage to make good the King's customs arising on their trade, and take care that the empire suffered no loss by the taking of Chandernagore, and its subordinate settlements as long as the French should be kept out of your country. Your Excellency's compliance in this matter will give the English a certain proof of the sincerity of your friendship, and attach to you a set of people faithful in their alliances, and ready to fight your cause against all enemies whatever. I have talked seriously with Nuncomar concerning the debts due from the French to your subjects. In war we cannot be supposed to be answerable for the debts our enemies have contracted, the half you so generously decline may be applied to that purpose, and Mr. Watts will be empowered to settle this matter. I am not a little surprized however that any difficulty about these effects should have prevented those persons who escaped from hence being delivered into my hands. Let me only assure you that if you permit them to go to Patna, they will certainly join your enemies the very first opportunity. Think well of this and let them be put into my hands, as I before desired you, and they shall never do mischief. The French gentlemen whom I had permitted to retire to Chinchura, and to whom I had shewn much kindness, abused this favour by encouraging the escape of the soldiers, and common people, and providing them means of going to Cossimbazar, and committing besides many other wrong practices. I therefore surrounded Chinchura with my troops to prevent their escape, and demanded of the Dutch Directore that they should be delivered up to me, which accordingly was done. To put it effectually out of the power of these French gentlemen to hurt us again, I have sent Mr. Rennault and his Council to Calcutta, and the other gentlemen to live at Chandernagore under my eye.

With regard to my request about the money and goods, Manickchund and others secretly plundered at Calcutta should be delivered up to the English. I am perfectly sensible that this is not directly included in the Treaty, but I had heard that you were calling Manickchund to an account for what money and goods he had clandestinely taken to himself instead of bringing them to the account of the Circar.

Your Excellency, who is endued with great good sense and strict justice, must allow that though Manickchund was unfaithful to the Circar yet the loss in fact was to the English. Your justice can only decide in our behalf. We repeat that we have no absolute claim on you thro' the Treaty. Be assured shall always abide by that, and never require more than our right. Those break through such a solemn Treaty as that which is made between your llency and the English must never expect to be successful in their under-rs.

a paper apart.—I shall be very happy if we have any timbers and for your purpose. I have desired Nuncomar to send some of his people what we have got, and to take whatever they may find proper for

No. 117.] From the NABOB, dated April 10th. Recd. April 15th, 1757.

I thank God I continue still firm to whatever I've signed and agreed, as to all the goods and money received by me from Cossimbazar, Dacca, and the aurunges, I have given orders to the Seats house for the payment of the money to Mr. Watts, and directed the vacqueel to deliver the goods out of the magazines. What little remains still undelivered I have deferred returning, till I have a discharge in full.

I desire that you will forward to Mr. Watts a receipt wrote according to the copy I sent him and sign'd by the Company, yourself, and the Council, having your respective seals annexed, writing him at the same time to deliver the receipt into the King's counting-house and receive the rest of the goods. It becomes you also to adhere strictly to whatever you have agreed and sworn to on your part. The articles you have signed those I have by me, and those I signed you have got. I therefore trust that you will neither by the insinuations nor instance of self-interested men write any thing which is not conformable to our Treaty, as it must be hurtful to it and to our friendship, and besides you need not expect I will pay any observance to it.

No. 118.] From COLONEL CLIVE to JUGGUT SEAT, April 16th, 1757.

I wrote you, April 8th, expressing the great satisfaction it gave me to hear of your prosperity and happiness in the marriage of your two sons.

Being sensible how much the good of society and the happiness of Manickchund is promoted by the benefits of trade, it has ever been my desire that it should flourish and be secured from danger even in the midst of war. As a proof of it our great bankers on the Coast have accompany'd our camp, and carried on their business securely during the war. Now that we are again blest with peace in the province, it is becoming the character of such men as you, who have raised their fame so high to study and pursue every method to repair by the encouragement of trade, the damage and misfortunes suffered by this country from the late troubles, and as you have long been in friendship with the English I could heartily wish for the continuance of it as formerly, that you would send your Gomastah to Calcutta to carry on the business as usual, where he might ever be assured of my favour and protection. I hope you now are thoroughly satisfied of our peaceable intentions, and that our only desire is to extend our Commerce more than ever. We therefore hope you will show your confidence in us and return Bejenaub, your former Gomastah, to Hugley.

The Nabob is very warm in his profession of friendship, and desire that the Treaty may be ever strictly observed betwixt him and the English, and I dare say men of your discernment will show him how much his interest and fame, as well as the peace and prosperity of his subjects are concerned, that it should continue ever inviolate. I hope you will give us all the assistance you can in getting our business made clear, and assure the Nabob I shall always be ready to serve him with my whole army.

No. 120.} From the NABOB to COLNOEL CLIVE, April 14th. Rec^d April 17th, 1757.

Your letters in relation to the French goods and their factories, that you were far from desiring there should be any loss to the King, have reached me. I have observed the contents. For your satisfaction, and in observance of this, that your enemies are mine and mine yours, I have ordered Mr. Law and his people out of my Subaship, and have wrote expressly to my Naibs and Phousdars never to suffer these people, whom I have turned out, to reside in any part of my province. I am ever ready to assist you, and should the French with a small or large army ever come into this kingdom with a design to fight you, I swear before God and his Prophets that whenever you write, myself with my forces will join you. Be assured of this, I look upon whatever has passed between us by letter, and everything we have agreed and signed, to be very firm. I observe whatever you have written concerning the French factories and goods. The French are indebted to my subjects lacks of rupees. If I act as you desire what answer can I give to their lawful creditors. Do you who are my well-wisher and friend consider this well, and write me that I may act accordingly.

I have wrote before and now repeat it, that if you regard the Company's business you will beware from the instance and persuasion of self-interested men who desire to break the peace of requiring of me any more than what we have agreed to, as I will not listen to it. Should this not displease you, as you have the agreement by you, let whatever you write be conformable to it. You will learn from Mr. Watts what has passed between us in private.

In the Nabob's own hand—If you design to keep the peace you will write me nothing without consulting the articles of Treaty.

No. 121.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, April 20th, 1757.

I had the honour of your favour of the 14th, wherein you tell me that for my satisfaction and in observance that your enemies were mine and mine yours, you had ordered Mr. Law and his attendants to quit your country and had wrote expressly to all your Naibs and Phousdars never to suffer them, whom you had turned out, to settle in any place in your Subaship, and that should the French ever enter this kingdom with a small or large force with an intention to fight me, you took God to witness, upon my writing to you, you would with your army come to my assistance; this I might rest assured of.

That should you act conformable to what I requested regarding the French factories and goods, what answer could you give to your subjects, their lawful creditors to whom they owed lacks of rupees. This you desired I would consider well, and write you. I am attached with my heart and soul to your kindness, knowing well that your enemies are mine and mine yours. But yet your Highness not delivering up Mr. Law and his people to me, and suffering them to go away is not very kind. Although I hold Mr. Law in very little consideration, yet nevertheless it could never be for your good to set my enemies, however inconsiderable, at liberty, for be assured that should either the Mahratas or Pattans, as they are now meditating, or any other enemies invade your country, they will certainly join them against you. I must therefore request your Excellency will allow me to send a part of my forces after them to take them prisoners, or else that your Excellency will do it yourself. I must further desire you will remember the conditions on which we promised to make good the King's duties arising on the French trade, were "that you delivered into our hands all the French, their factories and effects, and while they were kept out of your kingdom." I have spoken fully to Nuncomar in regard to the affair of the French creditors. Please to let me know whatever he has wrote you that I may be satisfied whether he has wrote you as I desired or not.

It is universally known that conquerors are never answerable for the debts of the vanquished. I wrote you before that the half which you of your justice and generosity declined might be set aside for this purpose, and that there might on this account be no delay, I had directed Mr. Watts to settle this affair. Though the French effects were worth lacks of rupees I would not regard them, but I will never consent that one European among them shall get away: Depend upon this. Yet if they will agree to terms no harm shall be done them. God is witness I am steady to what I have agreed to. It gives me great concern you are yet diffident of it. I am well persuaded your Highness will assist me, and you may ever depend upon my friendship and service.

I hope your Highness will be so kind as to fulfill the articles of agreement as soon as possible, as I can't in justice to the Company and honour to my King return to Calcutta till they have been complied with. This occasions a loss to you as well as to the Company. I pay no regard to what bad men would insinuate, neither do you, for what may be said to you by those who desire to embroil affairs, defer fulfilling the agreement. When all the goods and money has been delivered to Mr. Watts, the discharge in full you desire shall be sent him to be delivered to you.

No. 122.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, April 15th. Rec^{d} April 21st, 1757.

Your obliging letter, desiring the restitution of the guns, &c., taken by me at Cossimbazar and the other factories, and purwannahs for the currency of the Company's business as formerly, for coining siccas in Calcutta Alenagur, and for the thirty-eight villages, that I should return all the money and goods taken by me at your factories and the aurunges, I have received and observe its contents.

Having occasion for fifty large cannon I shall look upon it as a mark of your friendship if you'll send them to me, else agree to receive the value of the guns taken in Cossimbazar; but if you 'll do neither, write me that I may return them to Mr. Watts. The purwannahs for the currency of the Company's business as usual were delivered Mr. Watts before the receipt of your letter. It is a wonder to me you have not as yet received advice of this. I have also now sent the purwannahs for the Mint in Calcutta.

Regarding the thirty-eight villages, the Jemidars, the Puniah now drawing near, at present are all busyed in collecting their rents. God willing when the Puniah is over, I'll give orders to all the Jemidars' vacqueels about this business. You are to pay the value and satisfy the Jemidars for whatever villages you take, and for such villages a purwannah shall be given, seeing in the phirmaund it is mentioned you must satisfy the Jemidars. I am firm and steady to my Treaty and never will depart from it.

Mr. Law I have put out of the city, and have wrote expressly to my Naib at Patna to turn him and his attendants out of the boundaries of his Subaship, and that he shall not suffer them to stay in any place within it. If anybody represents this affair to you in a different light don't believe him.

Translation of the Message sent by the NABOB to MR. WATTS by RUNGEET ROY and MEER BAKHUR, wrote in Persians from their mouth.

For your satisfaction I have turned the French out of Muxadabad, and wrote an order to Rajaram Naraini Bahador, my Naib at Patna, to turn them out of his bounds. If after this your troops should come to fight them the peace and articles we have agreed to will no longer subsist. If you will hear now to what these two men shall say to you 'tis well; if not depart from hence.

Copy of RAJARAM SING's letter to the NABOB.

Purrime and other Hircaras brought us by word of mouth this news from Cuttack that the Governour[1] of the Fort Barabatty and Ramagee Pundit[2] wrote to Taungee[3] and his mother and four brothers who stay at Punah with a design to fight Balagee[4]; that Rajaram[5] was with the Nabob's forces at Ballasore. Taungee and his mother wrote them back, that if the Nabob's troops were at Ballasore it was very well. We neither want the fort of Barabatty, nor the Subaship. 'Tis the chout we want. Sadruthul Khan, the Nabob's vacqueel, has given them answer, and wrote the Governour of Barabatty if any of the Mahrattas write to you to deliver up the fort to them do it, seeing there are great troubles about here, no less than 11,000 soldiers and Tellingis belonging to the English being come to Ballasore with an intent to take the country. But should they offer any violence to the Nabob's subjects I will chastise them as they deserve. Everybody about Ballasore trembles for the Nabob's army.

No. 123.] From COJA WAZID to COLONEL CLIVE, dated 14th April. Rec^d April 21st, 1757.

I returned before this an answer to your friendly letter which I question not you received. I have now according to your request, and in consequence of your favour and friendship, sent to you Sudashew, who will acquaint you with everything. I am certain he will meet with from you all the kindness great and leading men are wont to show. I hope you will hear attentively whatever Sudashew tells you, and let me have the pleasure of your answer speedily.

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[1] Subordinate to Mirza Sallee, Naib of Cuttack.
[2] The Mahrattoe's vacqueel for collecting the chout.
[3] Chief of the Mahrattoes.
[4] One of the Mahrattoe Generals.
[5] The Nabob's Officer.

No. 124.] From COLONEL CLIVE to COJA WAZID, April 23rd, 1757.

I have received your obliging letters. Sudashew has been with me, and by his discourse has given me great satisfaction. You may rest satisfied he shall ever meet with my favour and protection, and should you yourself ever have any desire or intention to return to Hughley I do assure you that you may ever depend upon my friendship and readiness to assist you whenever it lies in my power, and that it will give me the greatest pleasure to see you soon again among us.

No. 125.] From COLONEL CLIVE to MOHUN LALL, April 23rd, 1757.

The Nabob's late proceedings and his message to Mr. Watts with many other particulars surprize me much, and have given me great concern. It appears to me as if this rich and fair country was to feel the fatal effects and desolation of war; for my own part I have in all my letters endeavoured to convince the Nabob of the sincerity of my intentions, but if he will put no confidence in them he must answer the consequences. Your great abilities and the great favor you enjoy with the Nabob have induced me to write my sentiments that if possible his or our ruin may be prevented, for the fate of one of us it must be if the war begins again. If when the Nabob was before Calcutta I was able to encounter his army, I am not the less so now that my army is become strong again. Let me request it as a mark of your friendship that I may now fight for the Nabob and not against him; to fight for him is what I desire above all other considerations. Remember that where confidence is wanting there can be neither peace nor friendship. Our vacqueel being turned away and the threatening message sent to Mr. Watts has put me upon my guard, and I am assembling all my forces in order to march your way, if the Nabob be resolved to set aside all his former promises and break through his agreement.

In the Colonel's own hand.—As the Nabob gives great attention to what you say I desire you will give him such advice as is consistent with his honor and the good of his country. In so doing you will gain the character of a faithful servant and make the English your friends.

The NABOB'S letter to NUNCOMAR, April 23rd, 1757.

Health to the honourable Nuncomar. I have received the letter you wrote me. I observe and approve of the pains you have taken to collect the King's revenues, your endeavours for the safety and well-being of the province, and the answer you have made to Colonel Clive.

The articles of agreement with the English Company are complied with, the money and goods belonging to the English factories at Cossimbazar and Dacca that were taken have been all returned to Mr. Watts, and the purwannahs for the currency of the Company's business, agreeable to Mr. Watts' own desire, together with the purwannah for the Mint at Calcutta, have been all delivered, which the Colonel must have been acquainted with by Mr. Watts. Regarding the cannon I have wrote before to the Colonel; on his answer this affair will also be settled.

Although there is no mention of the Calcutta affairs in the Treaty, yet for the Colonel's satisfaction I have got Manickchund's papers. His and the Company's Mutsiddies sent by Mr. Watts are now examining them with the Company's papers; when this is over that business will also be settled. On my part there never will be any deviation from the agreement.

Concerning the French the case is this: It is not the custom of the head of the kingdom of Hindostan to bind and deliver up the weak because by so doing I should have a bad name through the whole world. Nevertheless I have turned Mr. Law away from hence, and wrote expressly wherever I have any authority that they should not suffer them to abide there, but send them to the other side of the River Carramnasser.

No. 126.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, April 24th, 1757.

I have received with great satisfaction your Excellency’s letter desiring fifty pieces of cannon to be furnished you, and acquainting me that after the Puniah is over you will give orders about the thirty-eight villages on our satisfying the Jemidars agreeable to what is expressed in our phirmaund, and assuring me that you remain firm and steady to the Treaty and never will depart from it, and that you have put Mr. Law out of Muxadavad, and wrote to your Naib at Patna to turn him and his attendants out of the boundaries of your Subaship, and not to suffer them to stay in any place therein.

I have likewise received from Mr. Watts a Persian writing containing the message you sent him by Rungeet Roy and Meer Bakhur, as taken from their own mouths, also a copy of Rajaram Sing’s letter to your Excellency which you desired might be transmitted me. I don’t well understand the meaning of Rajaram Sing’s letter, but must imagine from the falsities, he would make your Highness believe that he designs to disturb our peace and friendship. I declare we have no more than 60 men at Ballasore and no forces have arrived but those I informed you of.

I am sorry to find by the message to Mr. Watts and other particulars which have come to my ears that your Excellency harbours some displeasure against the English: as I set a great value on your friendship any decrease I perceive in it gives me the highest concern. I can solemnly swear that I bear the best intentions towards you and your Government. My readiness to undertake a long march to assist you against your enemies, and indeed all my actions ought to have convinced you of this. What passed before the Treaty is entirely forgot on our parts, and I persuade myself from your Excellency’s good sense and justice that it is the same with you.

I have made no use of the large army under my command but to be at the French. I shall not on any account be the first to break the peace with your Excellency. But if you think proper to begin hostilities against us, I shall not at all be apprehensive for the consequences. God forbid that any difference should arise again between us, it shall not be my fault. It is in your power to have us for firm friends or formidable enemies.

If I have so often desired the French to be delivered up to us, it was as much to secure the peace of your country as to benefit the Company’s trade. Should you be still resolved not to send them to us I shall depend upon your word that they are expelled out of your Subaship.

It will be best that your Excellency be supplied with the fifty cannon you desire from this place or Calcutta as those of Cossimbazar will be wanted for the fortifications of that place, and I hope you will order them to be delivered to Mr. Watts. It will be your Excellency’s fault if you do not receive signal proofs of the friendship of the English in this as well as any other occasions you may have for it.

I think it necessary to acquaint you that I now send one officer, four or five soldiers and twenty Tellingees to Cossimbazar to bring away some of the money and effects we have there.

In the Colonel’s own hand—Your behaviour to our Vacqueel has given me great uneasiness; however that is over and forgotten. Trust me and I will be faithful unto you to the last, but remember that if you have given ear to my enemies and are resolved to break through the articles of agreement, you will become responsible for all the blood that shall be spilt, and all the mischief that shall be done.

Translation of a Sunnud enclosed in a letter from Mr. Watts.

Kazi Sahid Mahamud Khan.

A copy of the Sunnud sealed with the seal of the Nabob, Mustatab Munsur-ul-Mumoluk Seraja Dowlah Bahader. Hybut Jung, 27th of the Moon Rajab in the 3rd year of Alumgeer’s reign.

All Mutsiddies who now are or hereafter may be employed in the King's business, all Chowdries, Kanoongoes, and others within the heaven, the Subaship of Bengal, Behar, and Oriza. Know ye that the English Company's servants shall at all their factories and at all the aurunges buy and sell the Company's goods and merchandize without any let or hindrance from you, and according to the royal phirmaund ye shall demand nothing from them. All the purwannahs which have been issued forbidding the levying any dutys, customs, or abwal (presents on particular occasions) and for the currency of sicca rupees coined in Alenagur, Calcutta, through all the Subaships under my jurisdiction, their copies and the copy of this purwannah if sealed by the Kazi's seal shall be deemed valid, and you shall act conformable to them. By the royal phirmaund and Husbul Hukkum which the English now possess forty biggas of ground are granted them wherever they shall build a factory. I therefore write you that in whatever place they shall as formerly build a factory you shall give them forty biggas of ground for that purpose, and be assisting to them in all their affairs. All this you will strictly observe.

Translation of a Purwannah enclosed in a letter from Mr. Watts.

Kazi Sahid Mahamud Khan.

A copy of the purwannah sealed with the seal of the Nabob Mustatab Munsur ul Mumuluk Siraja Dowla Bahadar, Hybut Jung, dated the 1st of the Moon Shaban in the 4th year of the reign of Allumgier.

To the Protectors of the High and Lofty.

The great among Merchants the English Company on whom may the King's favour ever rest.

From the 1st day of the Moon Shaban the beginning of the 4th year of the reign of Aalumgeer. New siccas being now begun to be struck for this year in all the mints. Do you also set up a mint in Alenagur Calcutta, and there continue to coin into Alenagur Calcutta siccas, all your gold and silver which comes in, and provided they be made equal in weight and fineness to those coined at Muxadavad, they shall then pass current in the King's treasury, and nobody shall make any objection to them on account of batta. But ye shall not coin siccas for any other people.

No. 127.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, April 26th, 1757.

I received with pleasure your agreeable letter. You desire in it that I would fulfil the articles of agreement. As I am a well-wisher to mankind I remain unalterably firm to my Treaty. There neither is nor shall be any deviation from it on my side. The articles of the agreement with the Company are all complied with. Whatever goods and money belonging to the Company were taken by me at Cossimbazar and Dacca have been delivered back to Mr. Watts. The several purwannahs for the currency of the Company's business, which are wrote agreeable to Mr. Watts's desire, together with that for erecting a mint in Calcutta Alenagur have been also put into his hands of which you have no doubt been informed by his letter. I wrote you before in regard to the cannon and shall act to this conformable to your answer.

Though in the articles nothing is mentioned relative to the Calcutta affairs, for your satisfaction however I have got from Manickchund the Calcutta accounts. His Mutsiddies and those sent on the part of the Company are now examining them with the Company's papers: when this is finished that business will be likewise settled. Whatever broadcloth and etc. small articles have been taken for my use shall be paid for at the current price when Mr. Watts lays that before me.

As to what you have wrote concerning Mr. Law, that it was very improper to set him at liberty, and that they would join with my enemies against me, therefore your forces would follow them, and you desired they might meet with no opposition from me. It is not the custom of Hindustan to bind and deliver up to their enemies the weak, who have begg'd their protection. I have turned Mr. Law out of my dominions. How should he ever dare to join with my enemies or yours, yet should this ever happen while I have such a man as you for my friend and assistant, God willing, by joining together we should punish him as he deserved. It is neither proper nor adviseable for you to send forces after Mr. Law. Seeing the Zemidars of Behar Subaship are very quarrelsome and mischievous, should they have any difference with you, it would have a very bad appearance and occasion the ruin and devastation of the province. As a friend I have faithfully acquainted you with this. Regarding the French factories the affair stands thus. Their creditors are constantly applying to me for their debts. It is not the custom, neither does it become judges to shut their ears against the just demands of those who apply to them. You yourself came to this part on the complaints of your Company's servants. Consider this within yourself, and then judge fairly. Munseram, when he arrives, will explain these things separately to you.

By the favour of God peace has been agreed upon betwixt Achmud Shah Abdally and me. By repeated advices I am informed of his returning by continued marches from Delhi towards his own country, and that he had got as far as Paniput and Sunipat. As I took upon Abdally's returning at his time in the light of a victory, for your pleasure and satisfaction I have acquainted you with it. It is very improper to send forces after the French. I have this day had advice that Mr. Law was got beyond the hills, and was continuing his march with all expedition. By the time your forces could arrive at Muxadavad they will be past the Carumnasser. You can neither expect nor will you gain any advantage by sending the troops, except that of distressing the kingdon, and the consequence, if you take this step, will be the breaking the Treaty.

From the Nabob to Colonel Clive, enclosed in the former.

As the Treaty was solemnly sworn to, and the articles sign'd by both parties, I have therefore no such designs, neither do I desire, while I possibly can avoid it, to break the Treaty on my side. You desired Nuncomar to write that you intended to march this way, and that you had already sent 500 choice soldiers and 500 Tellingis. He adds that your troops were continually going into Hugley, which occasioned much disturbance, and loss to the inhabitants. This is no ways warranted by the agreement.

As by your army marching this way the Treaty must be infringed and the kingdom suffer. On this account I write you, so that if you do send an army this way, it is you who break the Treaty, and I am blameless. I have directed my Generals, when they received accounts of your having begun your march, to set out to meet you.

From Mutteermul to Baboo Sahib, enclosed in letter from Mr. Watts.

The news of this place I have wrote you before, I have just now further learned that 11 boats are gone loaded with cannon, ammunition, and muskets to Cossimbazar. Two Tellingis were going by land from them. I learned that 500 choice Soldiers and 500 Tellingis will set out for that place this night, and I hear there are 3—sepoys assembled at Cossimbazar. I therefore write you it is very necessary to be upon your guard, and to send spys who may bring you certain intelligence. As you are a man of sense I trust you will make this known to the Nabob, that he may order a strong guard at his door, who may be ready with their arms night and day, and send some Hircaras to me. I am very attentive to my business; nothing passes but I inform you of it. Above all keep a strict eye on Cossimbazar, as soldiers and seapoys are going that way daily. 'Tis my duty to acquaint you and I constantly write you what happens. You will send an Hircara to Raja Dulub Ram Bahadar that he may be also on his guard. Seeing it is proper all should be on the watch and prepared and not negligent, it is good to be watchful; you will request the Nabob not to think himself too secure. I shall continue to advise you of what may further occur.

NUNCOMAR'S letter to the NABOB, enclosed in a letter from MR. WATTS, April 23rd, 1757.

Yesterday the 22nd April, at midnight, the Colonel's Munshie came to me and Mutteramul, and told us the Colonel called us for some business. As I suppose it was to talk about the French affair, and therefore I returned the Munshie this answer that I was not then at leisure being occupied about your business, but would come when that was finished. The Colonel being informed of this by his Munshie sent again another person to me and Mutteramul, an hour before day, who told us the Colonel, &c., were come out and then standing in the plain; that he had something which he must tell me and desired I would step there for a moment. Finding it impossible to avoid going, as he might put a bad construction on it, Mutteramul and I therefore went and found the Colonel, Major Roger Drake and others of the Calcutta Council standing all together, and observing the whole army and artillery (which were drawn up in Chandernagore plain to the north of Toldangy Garden) go through their exercise. They spent 2½ hours in this amusement. Asking leave after this to go away he desired us to go along with him for a little while to the garden. Having got there and in private he then told us you had contradicted all the favour you had professed for them, and had used very harsh expressions to Mr. Watts and the Vacqueel, and told them plainly to come no more into your presence, by which it appears to me the Nabob has been listening to my enemies. I shall therefore begin my march tomorrow towards the Nabob, and do you acquaint him of it. As Mutteramul and I were quite ignorant of what had passed betwixt you and Mr. Watts, according to my weak understanding I made this reply—that in every purwannah received by me your kindness for them seemed to increase daily. Why should he proceed so hastily. God willing, whatever the Nabob said he would do for you will be soon fulfilled; though we repeated this again and again, yet he seemed far from being convinced. We afterwards told him that we had addressed you in regard to this affair, that your answer would arrive in a few days with which we would acquaint him, and till this answer arrived begg'd he'd not be uneasy, nor give place to malicious insinuations to your prejudice. This was the discourse we had, and I have therefore wrote you, as it was proper and fit you should be informed of it, and hope speedily for your answer.

No. 128.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, April 30th, 1757.

I have received the favour of your Excellency's letter by Munseram. I forthwith sent for Nuncomar and Mutteramul, that for your satisfaction I might prove before Munseram the falsity of what they had wrote you concerning the march of my army. I having heard that your Excellency was displeased at something I had wrote, that you had tore my letter, and had turned our Vacqueel out of your presence, and ordered Meer Jaffer to march against me, It was on this account I called Nuncomar and told him as I imagined from these proceedings you had an intention to break the Treaty, I should therefore be on my guard and prepare for the worst. But I never entertained the least thought of moving your way unless I should be obliged to it. Your Highness informing me of several of the particulars of Nuncomar's letter I esteem as a proof of your friendship. I am extremely glad that I have now an opportunity of satisfying you as to the falsity of what has been wrote you, and to convince you of that, and at the same time of the sincerity of my intentions, I have ordered that my troops shall in a day or two retire into garrison, the major part to Calcutta and the rest to Chandernagore.

Your Excellency has fulfilled most of the articles of our agreement. Those yet remaining I hope will be also complied with soon, and that you will, conformable to the Treaty and agreeable to what you have wrote me, finish the affair of the thirty-eight villages when the Puniah is over.

I have just now received a letter from Mr. Watts that Roy Dulub has stopt some boats with 5 soldiers, 20 seapoys and some ammunition going to Cossimbazar. This has given me much concern: the smallness of the force must convince you I would have no bad intentions, besides I acquainted you in my last letter with my reasons for sending them, which was to bring down some of the money and goods from Cossimbazar in order to carry on our trade again. If you would not listen to my enemies, you shall find the English the most faithful people in your province. Nuncomar wrote I was sending 500 soldiers and 500 Tellingis. By this time you are convinced of the falsity of this report; whenever I send anything without acquainting you of it, then you may believe I am not your friend, but not before. However to satisfy you and convince you I am determined to abide by your agreement. I have ordered all my army into garrison. If your Excellency has occasion for the cannon of Cossimbazar you may keep them.

No. 129.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the Nabob, May 2nd, 1757.

From what I have wrote your Highness in my last, and from the advices you must have had from Munseram, who has seen every thing, I am persuaded you are fully satisfied of the falsity of what has been wrote you from this quarter. That your Highness may have no longer any suspicions or doubt of the truth of what I have often declared to you—that I desire nothing so much as to live in peace and friendship with you, and to make your kingdom flourish by extending our trade, I have ordered the greatest part of my army to Calcutta, and the rest to Chandernagore, and I expect to hear your Excellency has ordered your troops to return to Muxadavad. It has given me great concern to hear your Excellency had given so great credit to false informers and my enemies as to insist on searching our factory at Cossimbazar. What you discovered there will be a sufficient proof how little reason you had to suspect us of any such underhand practices. I know not what may be the custom in this country, but I assure your Highness I am above acting so false a part. My resolution once taken I act openly and fairly. Your Excellency must perceive there never can be that mutual confidence and cordial friendship betwixt us, which is so greatly to be desired for the good and prosperity of both, while you will believe whatever is told to my prejudice by men void of character and truth. I have, therefore, long wished that a person of truth, wisdom, and reputation from your Highness might remain with me, who being made sensible of the goodness of my intentions and fairness of my actions, might thoroughly convince you, that it is my desire and aim that the English should ever possess your favour and friendship, and be always regarded and depended on by you as your firmest support, which they will ever prove while your Highness trusts to them.

No. 130.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the Nabob, May 4th, 1757.

Munseram has been with me and the Admiral; he will inform your Excellency of what he knows. I have desired him only to tell the truth which is all I expect from him.

I almost despair of enjoying your Excellency's friendship while you listen to the idle stories and falsities of men of mean extraction. For my own part I despise them, being persuaded that for the sake of a few rupees they will say whatever they are bid. If a man of family and good name was near me, you then would soon be convinced of the English truth and justice.

Yesterday my army broke up their camp; more than half is gone to Calcutta, the rest remain at Chandernagore. Calcutta is become a place of such misery since your army almost destroyed it, that there is not room for more soldiers without endangering their lives by sickness. However, further to satisfy you, I shall order down to Calcutta all my field cannon. I expect to hear that your army has retired likewise to Muxadavad, and that you have been as expeditious in performing what you promised as I have.

I hear you have stopt Captain Grant. This surely is not an act of your friendship or agreeable to the articles of agreement. When your Excellency gave up Cossimbazar with its guns, &c., you could not expect it should neither have guns or ammunition in it for its defence. I am sure this was not so in your grandfather's time, neither did you find it in that condition when you obliged Mr. Watts to deliver it to you. I shall reside at the French gardens, a very convenient and pleasant house to the southward of Chandernagore.

No. 131.] From MOHUN LAL to COLONEL CLIVE, 3rd May, Rec^{d}. May 6th, 1757.

I have received with pleasure your friendly letter, and observe its contents. The Nabob, my master, is firm to the peace and Treaty he concluded with you, in conformity to which he has given the Sunnud and Purwannahs for the currency of the Company's business as formerly, through all the districts under his authority, and he has also caused to be delivered to Mr. Watts all the goods and effects taken by him at Cossimbazar and Dacca and the aurunges. The other accounts being settled; whatever goods appear by the papers yet remaining shall be delivered to Mr. Watts. By the goodness of God there neither has nor shall be the smallest deviation from what he has agreed to. Rest satisfied of this. Nor believe otherwise what may be wrote to you or told you by wicked men who make mountains of mole-hills. Continue you also steady on your part, and leaving as many of your men as is proper at Chandernagore return with the rest to Calcutta, and there carry on your trade. As your staying at this time with your army about Hugley will occasion great doubts and suspicions in the minds of the country people, and hinder them from labouring the ground to the detriment of the King's revenues arising thereon, and it will likewise give room for malicious people to invent falsities and stories against you. This you will please to consider well. I have just seen Mr. Watts: he will acquaint you of what past betwixt us.

You may ever depend upon my assistance in everything that may regard the Company's trade, while you remain sincere in your actions and carry on the Company's business fairly.

Translation of a copy of Purwannah under MOHUN LAL BAHADAR's seal directed to JUSSERU KHAN at Dacca, inclosed in a letter from MR. WATTS.

The English Vacqueel having represented to the Nabob that in virtue of his purwannah for the restoring the English Company at Dacca, and for the currency of their business, the English had dispatched goods from thence to Calcutta, but that several of those who sought to evade and pay no regard to this purwannah had stopt them, and would not suffer them to proceed in expectation thereby of getting something. Further that on this account all buying and selling in the circumjacent places continued yet stopt. As it is extremely wrong after receiving the Nabob's purwannah and what I wrote you that anything should be stopt, I, therefore, again positively write you on the receipt of this, that you acquaint all your people that none of them shall molest or impede the English Company, in their buying, selling, bringing, or carrying away their goods. That their business go on as formerly, and all of you be assisting to them in any affairs which may come before you. Should any more complaints be ever brought me on this head, look ye to the consequences.

No. 132.] From JUGGAT SEAT to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^{d} May 9th, 1757.

It was with the highest pleasure I received your obliging letter desiring me to send Bejenaut to carry on the business of our house, and assuring me that after his arrival, we should have evident proofs of the favour and assistance you promised to show him for our former friendship. I am well convinced I may depend upon your favour, but the case is this. Bejenaut, on the breaking out of the troubles, left Hugley, and staid at a small distance from it. When the Nabob went there he called him and sent him back to Muxadavad, where he has brought all his family. Zuhrah (Venus) is now set and the time is inauspicious for 2 months 15 days to set out from home to go about any good work, but God willing, when the time is lucky I will send him and acquaint you therewith. I hope you will continue to favour me with accounts of your good health.

No. 133.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^{d} May 9th, 1757.

Understanding from Omichund that you are very well pleased and satisfied with Mr. Pearkes, one of the Company's Councillors at Calcutta, who stays with you, I participate in your pleasure on this account, and have therefore sent by Hazarimull a dress and a horse for him, which it would be agreeable to me if you yourself would deliver to him.

No. 134.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, May 14th, 1757.

It is with great concern I daily hear of your Excellency infringing the Treaty. These reports are confirmed to me by your stopping the Company's treasure and goods coming from their factory at Cossimbazar. If the English are your enemies you are in the right to forbid the currency of their trade and free passage through your country, and if after the receipt of this you persevere in stopping them, I shall look upon it as a declaration that you do not chuse the English for your friends, the more so that after the most solemn promise of withdrawing your army as soon as I ordered mine into quarters, yours still continues in the field to the great detriment of the trade and ruin of your country, for the consequences must be, if they continue in camp many days longer, that my troops must again take the field. Your Excellency has taken no notice of many letters I have lately wrote you expressing the strongest inclinations to peace and friendship. Were you as anxious to see the trade of your country flourish as I am, you would be more desirous of peace, and your subjects be happy.

In a paper apart.—I hear a report of the Mahrattas having a design to enter the country. Your Excellency may be assured of my best endeavours to prevent their coming, and that if you fulfill the Treaty with the English you shall always find me your friend.

No. 135.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, May 10th, Rec^{d} May 16th, 1757.

The intrepid Sheik Amr-ul-la, who has served me for many years, in whom I have great confidence, I have now promoted to be Naib of the Hugley district, and he will arrive there very soon. You will speak to him as what may concern the Company's business in that quarter. I have talked to him myself on this head, and he will act accordingly.

No. 136.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, May 20th, 1757.

Mr. Scrafton, the bearer of this, will communicate some particulars of great consequence. Remember I tell you once more if you persist in mistrusting the English you must be in secret their enemies, and have not forgiven them what has happened at Calcutta and Chandernagore. The miseries they suffer'd by their expulsion from Calcutta no pen can describe, and what they did for the recovery of their losses is no more than what you yourself would have done in the like case. I make this last effort to obtain your confidence and good opinion, and to convince you, it is for my interest to assist you against all your enemies whatever, for without peace there can be no trade and without trade the Europeans cannot subsist, or your dominions flourish. Though you promised to withdraw your forces they still remain in the field, the consequences of which are the great merchants of Muxadavad will not come down to Calcutta, or trust their money and effects abroad, neither dare we trust our money to the aurunges or carry on our investments. The navigation of the Ganges is entirely at an end, your people seize and make prisoners everybody either going up or coming down. If you have the trade of your country at heart, consider well of these things, and do not drive the English to the sad necessity of believing you are determined to destroy them whenever you have an opportunity.

No. 137.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, May 17th, Rec^{d}. May 23rd, 1757.

I firmly adhere to whatever I have agreed to. Neither have I nor will I ever deviate from it. I consider your enemies as mine, and at any time should you want my assistance, on your advising me I will send it, and should I ever have occasion for your army I shall demand your assistance.

By the favour and goodness of God Abdally is returning by continued marches to his own country. We have been in peace with the Mahrattoes these seven years past, and we are in strict friendship with them. They are very sincere in their contracts and will never break their agreement. I have their Treaty ratified and sealed on their part and they have mine. They will never depart from this Treaty or ever come this way, whoever told you that news told you an untruth. My troops continue at Plassy and Daodpoore, because in the city the inhabitants suffer greatly from them, the most of my forces remain without the city. You may with great confidence continue to carry on your trade; none will ever make any opposition to it. What I have wrote I will stand by, and request you will always consult that when you write me. As our business is only this to observe punctually whatever we have agreed to, it cannot concern you whether I withdraw my army or keep them in the field. You may very safely carry on your trade.

No. 138.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, dated May 20th, Rec^d^. 24th, 1757.

You are endued with great sense and a mature judgment. Consider then within yourself why, unless I desired to see you again carry on the trade of your Company in my kingdom, do I, agreeable to your articles, restore to them all their goods, etca., seized by me in their factories. Never, never conjecture that I will retract from my agreement, and renew the war from any insinuations of self-interested and designing men. Shuffling and insincerity is a most shameful stain in a soldier, and no less unbecoming is it in men of birth and fortune to recede without cause from the contracts they have made. This however is most certain that till such time as I receive a discharge witness'd by you and the Admiral for such articles of the agreement as I have fulfilled, and while you decline carrying on your trade as you used to do, men will ever be representing things to your prejudice.

No. 139.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, dated May 21st, Recd. 24th, May, 1757.

Everything taken by me at the different factories has been delivered to Mr. Watts; a little only remains which I have set aside and reserved till I shall receive a discharge in full. Yet notwithstanding this Mr. Watts refuses to give me an acquittance importing that he has received in full every thing taken by me. On this account I address you, seeing that after articles had been agreed and signed to, and agreeable thereto, I have returned all the money and goods, the refusing to give me an acquittance is contrary to the rules and practice of trade. Till such time as this arrives, and the Company's business goes on as formerly, how can I rely on the Treaty, or trust in your friendship. Be judge of this yourself and speedily send me a discharge in full under the Company's Seal and the Seals of the Council, attested by you and the Admiral. By this I shall perceive your intentions are sincere and your friendship well rooted.

No. 140.] From MOHUN LAL to COLONEL CLIVE, dated May 21st, Rec^d^. May 24th, 1757.

Agreeable to the Treaty made with the Nabob whatever was taken by him has been delivered to Mr. Watts, the amount of the things expended for the Nabob's use only excepted, which Mr. Watts won't consent to receive at the bazar price, nor will he give a discharge acknowledging his having received in full whatever was taken by the Nabob. But as you desire the good of the whole and the satisfaction of both parties, I am certain this is not agreeable to your intentions. I therefore write you to desire you will send quickly a general discharge acknowledging your having received everything seized by the Nabob at all the factories and aurunges under the Seals of the Company and the Council, and attested by you and Admiral Watson as in the articles of agreement, and immediately write to Mr. Watts to receive the amount of the goods at the current price. Would you act thus, and as formely carry on the Company's business, these disputes would be at an end, and the Nabob will be convinced of the sincerity of your friendship and that you will stand by him, which will afford him great satisfaction.

No. 141.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, May 25th, 1757.

I have received your Excellency's several letters. By this time I hope Mr. Scrafton has been with you, and that you are thoroughly convinced of the English friendship and our resolution to abide by our agreement. I have already said as much as can be said about withdrawing your army, and that we can carry on no trade while the navigation of the river is obstructed. Your own merchants at Muxadavad will neither come here nor trust their money abroad while your army continues encamped on the banks of the river, very wisely conjecturing there can be no safety for trade as long as we mistrust one another. I put an entire confidence in your Excellency when agreeable to your request I withdraw all my forces and returned the most of them to Calcutta. Had you put the like confidence in me by withdrawing your army also agreeable to your promise, all suspicions had been at an end.

I observe what you write about sending you a receipt in full under the Seals of the Company and the Council attested by the Admiral and me for all that was taken by you at our different factories and aurunges. As your Excellency has always professed yourself a great lover of justice, your Excellency cannot in reason desire us to give an acquittance for the whole when only part has been received. It is certain there are several lacks of rupees yet due not only on the Calcutta account, but on that of Cossimbazar, Dacca, and the aurungs. However, agreeable to your desire I will get an acquittance properly signed and sealed, which shall be sent to Mr. Watts with orders to deliver it to your Excellency as soon as these accounts are fully settled, in which I flatter myself there will be no delay.

I cannot help reminding your Excellency that though the Puniah is long since over I do not find that any measures are taken for putting us in possession of the thirty-eight villages. Nor do I hear that Mr. Law is far advanced on his route towards the Carumnasser. Your Excellency will give the English an effectual proof of the sincerity of your friendship by fulfilling these points of your promise.

No. 142.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive. Rec^d May 26th, 1757.

The intrepid Sheikh Amr-ul-la, who is now firmly established the Phousdar of Hughley, representing that unless Coja Wazeed, who is my friend and the chief man in that part of the country, accompanied him, the business there would not go on as it ought, nor the place ever flourish. I have on these considerations sent him also and charged him with many particulars, which he will communicate to you by word of mouth. I am persuaded you will act according to what he shall represent to you. You may confidently rely on me in every respect, and carry on the Company's business depending on my assistance in every thing regarding trade.

No. 143.] From Coja Wazeed to Colonel Clive, May 24th, Rec^d. May 28th, 1757.

I have had the pleasure of your letter. Several affairs with which I have been occupied has hindered me till now from answering it. It must be allowed you have in no respect violated the Treaty, nor has the Nabob any other view but that the Treaty may on both sides be strictly adhered to, and the Company's trade prosper. As I perceive that wicked and self-interested men desire above all things to set you at variance with the Nabob, and use every means to hinder a sincere friendship and reconciliation betwixt you, I have therefore agreeable to what you have wrote, and by the Nabob's order set out for Hugley, hoping soon to have the pleasure of meeting you, and of laying before you many particulars, by which I trust you will in every degree be satisfied, and that your friendship for the Nabob and his kindness for you shall increase daily.

No. 144.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, June 1st, 1757.

I have received your letter by Muteramul. I am very much obliged to your Excellency for sending Coja Wazeed here. We have all talked together, and I make no doubt but everything will be settled to our mutual satisfaction, and that your country will flourish in the same manner as it did under your grandfather.

No. 145.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, May 27th. Rec^d June 2nd, 1757.

I am now well assured, and it appears plainly to me and by what Mr. Scrafton has told me that mischievous people have hitherto been endeavouring to set us at variance though neither of us have deviated from our agreement. On this consideration I have expressly wrote to our brothers, the redoubtable Rajah Dulub Ram, to the redoubtable Meer Mahmud Jaffer Khan, and to Meer Muddun to return hither with their armies as soon as possible, and they will accordingly be with me speedily. It becomes you on your part to act agreeable to our Treaty, to endeavour that there be not the smallest deviation from it, and that our friendship may encrease. With confidence also go on with the Company's business so that both the merchants and the poor may be benefited thereby.

In his own hand.—Rely on me in every respect with the greatest confidence, and carry on your Company's trade.

No. 146.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, June 8th, 1757.

Sheikh Amr-ul-la arrived at Hughley some days ago. I was in hopes to have heard many particulars from him agreeable to your Excellency's letter, but he has not been with me, but from Mr. Scrafton I have learnt that your Excellency has been pleased to give your orders to Rajah Mohun Lal to take in hand and finish the execution of the Treaty as soon as possible. But I am much surprised to find by Mr. Watts' letter that the affair does not draw to a conclusion; in the meantime the season for our business is passing. I hope your Excellency will take this into consideration.

Translate of two letters delivered by COJA WAZEED to COLONEL CLIVE.

From MONS. LAW to COJA WAZEED, 20th of the Moon Shivan.

I have received a purwannah from the Nabob to the following effect:— "That the English are again meditating some treachery against me; wherever this may find you, you are to return from thence." I am arrived at Bogglepore at a great expence wherefore I cannot move at present, but I send my Deputy Mons. Sinfray that he may write me the reason of my being called, and then I will go there. As you always show me great favour therefore I write you to desire you will let me know the cause of the rupture between the Nabob and the English, and what has the Nabob sent to me for. I hope you will oblige me in answering these particulars. Mons. Sinfray is going there. If you have any orders for him send for him, and acquaint him with them, and you will oblige me.

From MIRZA SALLEE to COJA WAZEED. (No date.)

I have received a purwannah to the following effect:—"That the distinguished of the Empire, the sword of riches, the victorious in war Mons. Bussy is coming to assist Mons. Rennault, the Governour of Chandernagore. That I am not to oppose the passage of Mons. Bussy's forces, that I must go out to meet him, and show him respect, and send him your way." As yet I hear nothing of his coming this way, but agreeable to the Nabob's order I have wrote to all the Jemidars and Thannadars on that side of the country, that if Mons. Bussy should march this way not to impede their coming, and to give me immediate advice of his coming that I may go to meet him, court his friendship, and send him that way.

No. 147.] From COLONEL CLIVE to SHEIKH AMR-UL-LA, June 12th, 1757.

I am now marching to Muxadavad in order to see the articles of the Treaty complied with which have been long delayed. Keep yourself quiet in Hugley and nobody shall molest you, but if you make the least stir depend on it I shall send people to destroy your town. Behave as a friend to the English, and you will find them such to you. Do not interfere, but wait the event whether our differences with the Nabob are to be settled in an amicable manner or by a battle.

No. 148.] From Sheikh Amr-ul-la to Colonel Clive, dated and rec^{d}. June 12th, 1757.

Your letter, in which you write me that the Nabob delaying the execution of the Treaty you are marching to Muxadavad, and that I should not leave Hugley I have received and am acquainted with the particulars. While I was near the Nabob I saw nothing, but what he spoke the most friendly intentions towards the English, and earnestly desires to finish the Treaty with them, and it is only the great importance of affairs that has occasioned the delay. It is not proper that on the misrepresentation of bad men you should take such an immediate resolution to march to Muxadavad. As soon as your letter arrived I dispatched it to the Nabob by express cossids. By the blessing of God you will soon have an answer. Delay your march till you have an answer from the Presence. I am here for the Nabob's business agreeable to his orders. The Nabob when he sent me here ordered me to do nothing to dissatisfy you. Whatever you order I am ready to obey.

No. 149.] From Colonel Clive to Sheikh Amr-ul-la, June 13th, 1757.

I have received your answer to my letter, but do not find it so clear and express as I expected, therefore I write you again that I send a ship to Hughley. If you oppose the passage of our boats or supplys coming to us, or commit any other hostilities, I shall destroy Hughley. It is necessary that you should give me a clear answer to my letter of yesterday that I may act accordingly.

No. 150.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, June 13th, 1757.

It was in consideration of the fame of your great character as being the greatest Prince, the greatest Nabob, and the greatest soldier in the Hindustan Empire that I was induced to enter into a Treaty of Peace with you in hopes the Company's business would increase and flourish; and therefore it was I past by the loss of many crores taken in the plunder of Calcutta, and was satisfied with what you agreed to restore me. The event has been that I find you have not been true to your Treaty. It has given me great vexation that having had a thing of so great consequence in your power as our friendship you should have neglected it, and not have known the true value of it. It was agreed between us that your enemies should be mine and mine yours. When your Excellency called me to your assistance against the Pattans, I swear before God that it was my firm intention to assist you with my whole force, and that I esteemed it the greatest happiness to have such an opportunity of testifying the sincerity of my friendship for you. Whereas your Excellency chose your friends from among my enemies as evidently appears from this. That we have certain knowledge from Dekkan of the letters you have wrote to our enemy Mons. Bussy. I refer you to the copies of your own letters. If you do not chuse to shew me your copies, I will wait on you with those I have. You have often assured me that you had sent Mons. Law with his people out of your country over the Carumnasser, whereas they are still by your orders at Bagglepore, and they receive a monthly allowance from you of 10,000 rupees, as an instance of which they received a bill for Juggut Seat's House at Rajahmul for 10,000 and continue to receive the same monthly. What you have wrote to him and his answer I am well acquainted with. You have discouraged the Company's business beyond what I am able to express, but I will touch only on a few particulars. Four months are elapsed since the Treaty, and many times that you have fixed on for the full execution of the Treaty passed by, yet very little advance is made towards fulfilling it. Of the great sums paid into your Treasury taken in Calcutta you do not consent to pay me above a fifth part, and yet expect I should send you a full discharge. You promised to pay a further sum of gold mohurs, even desired a receipt as if you intended to pay it immediately, and as a further proof you ordered Juggut Seat to pay the sum intended in silver; it was then deferred till the ships were gone. The papers relating to these things Omichund now has, and now you deny the whole, and

Omichund is sent down under pretence of having deceived us in the whole affair, and that you never made any such promise. It is not the money that gives me concern but to see you deviate so frequently from your word. You well know what mistrust you have shewn the English and the troubles you have given them. You have accused us of sending to Cossimbazar quantities of ammunition, of having a large force concealed there with some treacherous design, and even threatened, if we did not comply with having our factory examined, you would immediately break the peace. The English have been ill used in their passage to Cossimbazar, and even been stopt and forbid going there. You have shamefully driven our vacqueel from your presence. How can I bear the weight of so many injuries. It is therefore the sentiments of all who have the charge of the Company's affairs that I go to Cossimbazar, put our disputes to arbitration before Juggut Seat, Rajah Mohun Lal, Meer Jaffer Khan, Rajah Roy Dulub, Meer Murdun and the rest of your great men, and if it shall appear that I have deviated from the Treaty I bind myself to give up all my demands. But if it shall appear your Excellency has deviated from it, I shall demand satisfaction for all our losses, and all the charges of the navy and army. The rains being daily 'encreasing, and it is taking a great deal of time to receive your answer, I therefore find it necessary to wait on you immediately, and if you will place confidence in me no harm shall come from it. I represent this to you as a friend; act as you please.

No. 151.] From Sheikh Amr-ul-la to Colonel Clive, dated and rec^{d} June 13th, 1757.

I have received your answer to my letter. You write that you have sent a ship to Hugley that if I commit any hostilities the city will suffer for it, and that I should write a plain answer to your letter. I am, conformable to the Nabob's orders, to comply with what you please to direct. I do not offer to oppose the passage of your ship or boats, nor to appear an enemy in any respect. But am always ready to appear as a friend. I am here on the Nabob's account. I gave a particular answer to your letter yesterday, and I now repeat it that I shall not stir from hence, nor oppose the passage of your boats or people.

No. 152.] From Colonel Clive to Jaffer Ally Cawn, Niasaway, June 13th, 1757.

I am now advanced as far as Niasaway and hope to be at Nuddea in a day or two. Place the utmost reliance on my friendship.

Translation of a letter from Mohun Lal to Coja Wazeed.

The Nabob is performing and has performed whatever he agreed to with the English. Nevertheless the English are not yet carrying on their business. I don't understand the reason of this. If the English will not have confidence in us how are we to place in them. If it for fear of the French they don't carry on their trade, they can only come in by sea. Let them stop their passage by sending out their fighting ships, and carry on their Company's business and attend to trade. Then we can be satisfied of their good intentions. At all events try every way to find out the Colonel's intentions, and write me immediately that we may act accordingly. All that was taken from all their factorys has been restored, except 6 lacks and some thousands of rupees that was paid in by Manickchund, which we cannot pay at once. Endeavour to persuade the Colonel to be satisfied with receiving orders for that sum on the aurunges, for in the end they must trade, and send gomastahs to the aurunges they may receive it at those aurunges. Give it out for Putton, and for carrying on their trade, this will give great pleasure to the Nabob * *. The Nabob will be greatly pleased to have them receive the balance at the aurunges. Send their gomastahs and carry on their Company's business. Use your best endeavours to persuade the Colonel to this.

No. 153.] From Colonel Clive to Mohun Lal, Niasaway, June 13th, 1757.

Your letter to Coja Wazeed confirms me in the opinion I had entertained of the Nabob's disposition towards the English, and I am convinced of the justness of the resolution I have taken to treat in person with His Excellency, and am now advanced as far as Niasaway.

No. 154.] From COLONEL CLIVE to JUGGAT SEAT and MARAJA SEROOP CHAND, June 15th, 1757.

As the Nabob has so long delayed the execution of the Treaty with the English, I am therefore come this way in order to see the articles fulfilled. I hear there are great disturbances in the city. I hope my arrival will put a happy end to them. We are one and I shall always listen to your advice. Therefore I hope you will be satisfied in every respect. I am now at Culna, and hope to be at Ago Diep in two days. Be assured you may remain in the utmost safety in the city, and that my army shall act in the same manner they have hitherto done, and not plunder the least thing whatever.

No. 155.] From COLONEL CLIVE to JAFFER ALLY KHAN, June 15th, 1757.

I am now at Culna, and by the blessing of God hope in three days to be near the city.

No. 156.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, June 15th, 1757.

Almost everything in conformity to the Treaty has been delivered back to Mr. Watts; a very little only remained. The affairs with Manickchund also were settling as fast as could be. Notwithstanding this Mr. Watts, and the rest of the Council at Cossimbazar going to the Gardens on the pretence of a party of pleasure, have retired from thence in the night, which appears to be done with a very deceitful design and intention to break the Treaty. For certainly without your orders and directions Mr. Watts could never have acted in this manner. It was the consideration that something of this kind was continuing that hindered me from recalling the army from places, for I knew some trick was intended. I thank God, however, the Treaty has not been broke on my part, and as it was solemnly sworn to before God and his Prophet, he will doubtless punish him who first violated it.

No. 157.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, June 15th, 1757.

I have received your purwannah, and perused the contents, by which I find your Excellency has not received my letter sent to you by Mutermaul, and its copy of Coja Wazeed. You will there find the just motives that have induced me to march this way, that I may personally treat with your Excellency, and put our disputes to arbitration before all your great men, and if it shall be found that you have infringed the Treaty to demand such satisfaction as shall be in justice due to me, and that they may all be responsible for the better execution of the next Treaty that may be concluded between us. I need say no more till I have an answer to the abovementioned letter.

No. 158.] From COLONEL CLIVE to JAFFER ALLY KHAN, Tantesaul, June 16th, 1757.

I am arrived at Tantesaul near Pattlee. I am in expectation of your news, and shall enter into any measures you desire. Let me hear from you twice a day. I shall not stir from Pattlee till I hear news from you.

No. 159.] From COLONEL CLIVE to JAFFER ALLY KHAN, Pattlee, June 17th, 1757.

I am arrived at Pattlee with all my forces, and am very much surprized at not hearing from you. I expect that on receipt of this you will acquaint me fully with your intentions.

No. 160.] From JAFFER ALLY KHAN to COLONEL CLIVE.

I received your obliging letter the 28th of the Moon Ramazan on Thursday in the 4th year in the afternoon, at which I was extremely pleased. I understand that you marched the 25th agreeable to your contract. I broke the claim of service.

On the news of your coming the Nabob was much intimidated, and requested at such a juncture I would stand his friend. On my part, agreeable to the circumstances of the times, I thought it adviseable to acquiesce with his request, but what we have agreed on must be done. I have fixed the first day of the moon for my march. God willing I shall arrive. I hope till we meet you will write me of your health, and what else occurs, as I will you. You will take care to send trusty people that our secret may not be divulged.

No. 161.] From Colonel Clive to Jaffer Ally Khan, Pattlee, June 18th, 1757.

I have received your letter which has given me the utmost satisfaction after the great pain I have suffered by your silence. I have sent a party to possess themselves of Cutwan fort and town, and shall move with my whole army there tomorrow. I believe I shall march from thence the next day and hope to be at Moncurra in two days, but my motions will in a great measure depend on the advices I receive from you. Write me what you intend to do and what is proper for me to do. On mutual intelligence depends the success of our affairs, so write me daily and fully. If I meet the Nabob's army, what part will you act, and how am I to act. This you may be assured of that I will attack the Nabob within 24 hours after I come in sight of his army. Of all things take care of yourself that you be not undone by treachery before my arrival.

No. 162.] From Colonel Clive to Jaffer Ally Khan, Cutwan, June 19th, 1757.

I wrote you yesterday that I should march to Cutwan, and accordingly am now arrived there with my whole force, the fort having been taken by the detachment I sent against it. It gives me great concern that in affair of so much consequence to yourself in particular that you do not exert yourself more. So long as I have been on my march you have not given me the least information what measures it is necessary for me to take, nor do I know what is going forward at Muxadavad. Surely it is in your power to send me news daily; it must be more difficult for me to procure trusty messengers than you; however the bearer of this is a sensible intelligent man, and in whom I have great confidence. Let me know your sentiments freely by him. I shall wait here till I have proper encouragement to proceed. I think it absolutely necessary that you should join my army as soon as possible. Consider the Nabob will encrease in strength daily. Come over to me at places or any other place you judge proper, with what force you have. Even a 1,000 horse will be sufficient, and I will engage to march immediately with you to Muxadavad. I prefer conquering by open force.

No. 163.] From Jaffer Ally Khan to Colonel Clive, June 19th, 1757.

Health, &c., to Sahbut Jung Bhadre, the day of the Eade. Your note from Colsannie is arrived. I have perused the contents. Tomorrow the day of the Eade by the blessing of God I shall march. I shall have my tent fixed to the right or left of the army. I have hitherto been afraid to send you intelligence. After I am arrived in the army mutual intelligence will be easier, but here the Nabob has fixed choqueys on all the roads. Your letters come too open to me. I hope that till our affairs are publickly declared you will be very careful.

Translation of a letter from Jaffer Ally Khan to Mirza Anwar Beg, June 19th, 1757.

I thank God that you are safe and still alive. The Har Morahs are looking out for you. Your servants and letters are continually coming in to me. There are choqueys all round; for God's sake don't continue to do so. Monday and Tuesday it was in agitation to destroy me. The guns and fire arrows were all ready against me and the people were in arms day and night. Mr. Watts' news was known early on Monday. This startled the Nabob; he thought it absolutely necessary I should be soothed; he came to me himself. On Thursday eve the Hughley letter arrived that they were marched. I was to be with him. On three conditions I consented to it. One I would not enter into his service; 2ndly, I would not visit him; lastly, I would not take post in the army. I sent him word if he agreed to these terms I was ready. As he wanted me he consented. But I took this writing from all the commanders of the army and artillery: "That when they had conquered the English they should be bound to see me and my family safe wherever I chose to go." By the blessing of God I shall pray on the Eade day at Cutlee mosque, and shall then join the army, and shall be a mile to the right or left, then I shall know the situation the different commanders are in. I have sent an answer to the Colonel sewed up in slippers. The sepoys are very discontented and as yet none of them will agree to leave the city. The more expedition the better. Don't you think of coming to me.

Mohunloll is proposed for the van and I myself to be with him, but I shall never consent to this. You sent a letter sealed; where is the use of a seal.

You should not mention the affair of Bhadre Ally Khan but in the most private manner. My salaam to all the commanders.

The Nabob pitched his tent at Ammony Gunge and staid a day there. Now he is near Tarrackpore at Porcarrah. The artillery and sepoys are not yet gone out. I beseech you for the Prophet's sake to be more careful of your letters. If our secrets should be known the ill consequence will fall heavy on me.

The Nabob looks out for you, and is much your enemy; that chap, he says, is gone on scheme.

No. 164.] From NUNCOMAR to COLONEL CLIVE, No date. Rec^{d}. June 19th, 1757.

I arrived here the 30th of the Ramazan and paid my respects to the Nabob, and afterwards I told him the cause of your coming and your demands. Upon the affair of Manickchund, the Nabob swore by his God and his Prophet, that what the Colonel said that Manickchund paid into the Treasury above 17 lacks is wide from the truth. Whoever had told him so it is without foundation, and Omichund knows this well. If you chuse to have the affairs settled return to Chandernagore. By the blessing of God all the articles will be fulfilled. Send Omichund here that he may finish the affair as soon as you desire. Reflect on this and don't delay. Till I meet you let me hear of your health. Excuse the paper I had not better.

Translation of a letter from MANICKCHUND to OMICHUND. No date.

Bauboojee—In the evening I despatched your man back, and went into the presence and in private conversation settled for 20 and 2 which was consented to. Do you and the Colonel write a letter to the Nabob that if you can receive the 20 and 2 you will all return. Write by Radakissen and I will procure a writing from the Nabob that he will comply with the above, and I will get your balance restor'd, and as to the Calcutta, Cossimbazar, and Dacca affairs, Mr. Watts settled them and wrote so to Calcutta, and I will procure payment of the sums stipulated with him on the above account. This is agreed to, and the Nabob would make me the arbitrator. You know me to be a plain dealer and honest man. Send Radakissen and don't step a foot beyond where you are. Nor will the Nabob advance a step beyond places. If you mean to deceive, it will be neither good for you, me, him, or them, for nobody. Do not fight without a party; you can't effect it, but as you think proper. Write immediately, I had not entered into this affair, but on your writing. They within and without are agreed and are one. Let Radakissen be with me in the evening, that there may be a meeting. Keep Mr. Watts with you that the intent be not overset.

Translation of a letter from MANICKCHUND to OMICHUND. No date.

I have received your note. Look on me as your own. I can't mention the affair of the 20 and 2. You know how I am looked on. If it can be done I will. I could say much more to Radakissen than I chuse to write. How come you to think of fighting in a plain. The relationship between us still subsists on my side, that God knows your own mind. Weigh well what you do.

No. 165.] From Colonel Clive to Assaduzama Mahomed, Rajah of Beerboom, Cutwa, June 20th, 1757.

The letters you wrote to the Governor of Calcutta and to Mahmud Newaz I have well considered, and the strong friendship you expressed gives me great pleasure. By continued marches I have reached Cutwa and the fort, which had a great force in it, by the blessing of God, fell into my hands in a very short time. If you are firmly inclined to join me call God and your Prophets to witness your sincerity, and send 2 or 3,000 good horse to march day and night to join me in the time of battle, and I shall look on your affairs as my own, and end them happily for you, and your country shall not be injured, nor shall any collector be put over you, and whatever may be the charge of the forces you send me I will make the Government pay you. My real meaning is that I will content you, if your people arrive in time. Send me an immediate answer.

No. 166.] From Colonel Clive to Nuncomar, Cutwa, 21st June, 1757.

I told you when at Niasaray the English had no design upon the Subaship; that they were merchants and did not aim at conquest, but the Nabob's invitation to Mons. Bussy to enter this country, of which I have convincing proofs in my hands, together with the non-performance of the articles, especially the affair of the villages, is the real cause of my march this way. Finding that underhand it was his design to overset us by means of the French, it was therefore my duty to prevent it by making use of the great force now under my command. If he is disposed to satisfy us, let him write himself.

No. 167.] From Colonel Clive to Jaffer Ally Khan, Cutwa, June 22nd, 1757.

I am determined to risque everything on your account, though you will not exert yourself. I shall be on the other side of the river this evening, if you will join me at Placis, I will march half-way to meet you, then the whole Nabob's army will know I fight for you. Give me leave to call to your mind how much your own glory and safety depends upon it. Be assured if you do this you will be Subah of these provinces, but if you cannot go even this length to assist us I call God to witness the fault is not mine, and I must desire your consent for concluding a peace with the Nabob, and what has passed between us must never be known. What can I say more than that I am as desirous of your success and welfare as my own.

No. 168.] From Jaffer Ally Khan to Colonel Clive. No date. Rec^{d}. June 22nd, 1757, at 2 p.m.

I have received your answer advising the taking of Cutwa and was highly pleased. Sunday I marched from the city and reached Ammony Gunge and staid a day there to collect my people. The Nabob marched to-day from Tarrackpore and has pitched his tent at Moncurra near the bridge. By the blessing of God tomorrow I shall march from hence (Tuesday) and shall have my tent pitched to the left at a distance. The Nabob's intention is to have his Intrenchment at Moncurra, therefore the sooner you march to fall on him the better before his design can take place. As yet you are only designing, but it is not now proper to be indolent. When you come near I shall then be able to join you. If you could send 2 or 3,000 good fighting men the upper road towards Cossimbazar, the Nabob's forces would of themselves retreat. Then the battle will have no difficulty. When I am arrived near the army I will send you privately all the intelligence. Let me have previous notice of the time you intend to fight.

No. 169.] From COLONEL CLIVE to JAFFER ALLY KHAN, June 22nd, 1757. Disp^d. at 6 P.M.

Upon receiving your letter I am come to a resolution to proceed immediately to Placis. I am impatient for an answer to my letter by the trusty man Mirza Anwar Beg by the Colonel.

Orders to JAFFER ALLY KHAN, Placis, June 23rd, 1757. Disp^d. at 7 A.M.

Whatever could be done by me I have done, I can do no more. If you will come to Daudpore I will march from Placis to meet you, but if you wont comply even with this, pardon me. I shall make it up with the Nabob.

No. 170.] From JAFFER ALLY KHAN to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^d. June 23rd, 1757, at 5 P.M.

Your note is arrived. I was in the Nabob's presence on this plain, and observed that everybody was intimidated. He sent for me and flung his turband off before me, and one day he made me write on the side of the Khoran so that I cannot come over to you. By the blessing of God you have the better of the day. Meer Murdun was wounded by a ball and is since dead. Buxshee Hazarry is killed, and ten or fifteen horsemen are killed and wounded. Roy Dulub, Luttee Codair Cawn, and myself are moved from the right to the left. Makes a great and sudden discharge and they will run away and we shall do our part. The Colonel, Rajah Cawn, and myself, we four men, must absolutely consult together on the proper measures to be taken. We will certainly finish the matter; the bildars and bildeahs (gunmen and pioneers) have acted according to their agreement. I swear by my Prophet that the above is fact, attack him at 3 in the morning, they will all run away, and then will be my opportunity. The forces want to return to the city; attack him to-night by all means. We three shall be to the left of the Nabob. Coja Haddee will remain firm to the Nabob. If you come you have an opportunity of seizing. We three are ready for your service and will see you by and by. The Buckshee is killed, Sangaram is disabled. The commanders of the footmen and the swordmen have left the intrenchments, leaving the guns there. I have mentioned a small part of the loss that the part of the army commanded by Meer Murdun have sustained. Had you taken that opportunity to advance with your Army there had been nothing more to do. It grieves me that I was then at a distance. Your man was present while the above passed. Coddram Hossein Meerum, Meer Cassum, Luttee Cawn, and Raja Dulubran all send their salam to the Colonel.

No. 171.] From JAFFER ALLY CAWN to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^d June 23rd, 1757.

Your note is arrived. Your trusty man is taken. I congratulate you on executing your design. Mirza Anwar Beg or Mr. Watts or Coja Petrus, send one of them to me. I am here on the banks of the lake agreeable to your desire.

Translation of a letter from JAFFER ALLY KHAN to MIRZA ANWAR BEG.

I congratulate you. I am on the banks of the lake. If Mr. Watts would come to-night the affair would be over. If Mr. Watts does not come bring Petrus with you. The Nabob is gone from hence and will arrive in the city at 12 at night. Agreeable to the Colonel's writing I am on the banks of the nulla. I therefore call you that we may take proper measures. I send you this by my servant that you may come immediately, that I may march in the morning.

No. 172.] From COLONEL CLIVE to NABOB JAFFER ALLY CAWN, Daudpore, June 24th, by MR. SCRAFTON.

I congratulate you on the victory, which is yours, not mine. I should be glad if you would join me with the utmost expedition. We propose marching tomorrow to compleat the conquest that God has blessed us with, and I hope to have the honour of proclaiming you Nabob. Mr. Scrafton will congratulate you on my part; from him you will know how much I am yours.

No. 173.] From COLONEL CLIVE to LUTTEE CAWN, June 24th, 1757.

From Jaffir Ally Cawn Bahadre I am informed that you are in friendship with him, and I persuade myself it will be for the good of your country. The best advice I can give you is that you don't let your enemy escape.

N.B.—The same to Roy Dulub, Cojah Haddee Cawn Buxhee.

No. 174.] From COLONEL CLIVE to JUGGAT SEAT and MARAJA SEROOP CHUND, June 24th, 1757.

Jaffir Ally Cawn Bahadre informs me you have great friendship for him, which gives me great satisfaction. Now I persuade myself that by your counsels the country will flourish as I would wish it. Do you weigh well what measures are necessary to be taken at the present juncture.

No. 175.] From COLONEL CLIVE to MONICKCHUND, June 24th, 1757.

I before was informed of your friendly sentiments by Mr. Watts. Mr. Watts has assured you, you may be easy with regard to the Calcutta affairs. From Jaffir Ally Cawn Bahadre I am informed you have joined him. I am glad to hear it, because he is now Nabob, and I shall while I live be ready to support him with my whole force. I now write that you may be easy with regard to the Calcutta affair. It shall never be mentioned again and I persuade myself that by your counsels Bengal will again flourish, and my advice at present is that you act so as that the enemy shall not escape.

No. 176.] FROM NABOB JAFFER ALLY CAWN to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^{d}. June 25th, 1757, at 6 P.M.

By Rungeet Roy I sent you word that his fortune was changed, and he has run away, but he is at his house. Mohun Lal, he has despatched to Purnea with his women and many treasures. I hope in God to take them all. Sir, I hope on receipt of this you will oblige me by advancing with your army to Chunacolly. On your arrival tomorrow Siraja Dowla will be either taken or killed. Arrive soon. Don't delay.

No. 177.] From NABOB JAFFER ALLY CAWN to COLONEL CLIVE, June 25th, 1757, at 8 A.M. Rec^{d} the same day at noon.

About 11 at night he fled; at 12 I was advised of it, and have sent people after him. By the blessing of God he will be taken. Wherever you are continue. When I write you proceed.

No. 178.] From JUGGAT SEAT to COLONEL CLIVE, June 25th, 1757.

I have received the obliging letter you was pleased to write me by Omichund, assuring me I had nothing to apprehend from you. My heart is elated with gladness past expression. The friendship with you is truly sincere as I am yours. I look for your favour. Be pleased to accept of ten Europe pomegranates, which I now send you.

No. 179.] From NABOB JAFFIR ALLY CAWN to COLONEL CLIVE, June 26th, 1757.

I have had the honour of your note advising me you was on your march, and that you would stay at Moidapore. Mohun Lall and his son are now brought back here prisoners. Twenty-five hackerys and some elephants belonging to his retinue are also taken. Narrain Sing and all the other hircaras are arrived. I have despatched part of my army in pursuit of Siraja Dowla, whose fortune has now changed. With God's assistance they will soon bring him back prisoner. Of this you need make no doubt.

No. 180.] From COLONEL CLIVE to NABOB JAFFER ALLY CAWN, June 26th, 1757.

Your letter advising the taking Mohun Lal and his son prisoners with their hackerys and elephants I have received with a joy beyond what I am able to express. I hope by the blessing of God you will have the like success over the rest of your enemies, and that you will be a great Prince, and make your subjects happy. I shall have the honour to wait on you in a day or two that we may consult together on the properest measures to make your country flourish.

No. 181.] From COLONEL CLIVE to JUGGAT SEAT and MARAJA SEROOP CHUND, June 26th, 1757.

I have received your kind present; look on me as your friend; always ready to do you all the service in my power. Whenever convenient it will be a happiness to me to see you.

No. 182.] From ASSADUZAMA MAHMUD, Rajah of Beerboom, to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Recd June 26th, 1757.

Your obliging letter acquainting me that you marched to Cutwan, and had taken the fort, and that I should hasten to join you, and that I should act sincerely and heartily with you, the receipt of which has made my heart strong and commands all my attention. God and his Prophet know the sincerity with which I have several times wrote on this subject to the Governour, that I might know your intentions, and that if you would supply me and protect me I would join you, and I wondered at the delaying so long an answer to my letters. But the Cossids inspired me with confidence and I wrote other letters to the Colonel, the Governour, Govinram Metri, and Newaz Mahmud. You have undoubtedly perused them, and I was impatient for an answer, when your letter arrived. Your great favour gives me strength and I know your promise is sacred. By the blessing of God I will soon arrive with my army and will certainly join you. But it is necessary I should tell you I am a Zemindar, and should the Nabob satisfye you and satisfy me, that you will in that case take care of my interest. Write me but this. I have before wrote you, I am a man true to my word. I will assist you as far as the supplys you can give me will admit of.

No. 183.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the Rajah of Beerboom, June 26th, 1757.

Your ready compliance with my desire is a most convincing proof of the sincerity of your friendship. By the blessing of God I have overcome our enemy in a great battle fought on the 23rd of this month on the plains of Placis, have taken his camp and all his cannon from him, but himself is escaped by flight. Jaffer Ally Cawn Bahadre is now Nabob. You may be assured I will make use of my interest with him to free you from the oppressions you complain of, that I will make your cause my own, and do you all the service in my power. Let me have the pleasure of hearing of your health.

No. 184.] From COLONEL CLIVE to NABOB JAFFER ALLY CAWN, June 2nd, 1757.

There are a number of cannon and stores of all kinds lying in the roads betwixt Placis and here. I beg you will send for them; they are yours, not mine.

No. 185.] From NABOB JAFFER ALLY CAWN to COLONEL CLIVE, June 27th, 1757.

MY CAWN AND MY BAHADRE,

I have received your note desiring I would take away the guns and hackareys, and &c. I intended to trouble you on this score, but you have known my mind and made an offer of what I would have begg'd. I will order my people to bring them away immediately.

No. 186.] From SEROOP CHUND, Rajah of Burdwan, to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^d. June 27th, 1757.

The obliging letter which you ordered Omichund to write me I have received and am elated with joy. Omichund will acquaint you with my misfortunes. By the rapaciousness of the Government nothing is left me. These three years I have no power left me in my country, and my own servants refuse to obey me. But by the blessing of God by your coming the country shall flourish, and all men have their hearts at ease. I hope in God your power will be as great as I could wish it, that you may be good to everyone. On this depends my own welfare. Monickchund is become the Governour of the country. Lalloo Omichund is sent to act for him here. The power is vested in him. They and their ancestors have been servants to me and my ancestors for many years. It has pleased God that I should fall under the power of such a man. The time will certainly come when he will be punished for these things. If you punish him I may remain secure in my own place. I never spared any pains for the Company's goods, but my inclination to serve them is checked by the want of power. I could not send the letter to Lalloo Omichund, because it would induce him to conclude I had sided with you. Reflect on this. I have wrote further particulars to Omichund, with which he will acquaint you.

No. 187.] From ASSADUZAMA, Rajah of Beerboom, to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^d. July 2nd, 1757.

I before advised you of the particulars of my march. Your cossids arrived the 11th of the Bengal month. I immediately pitched my tent and marched the 12th. The man that was sent over me stopt my progress, and wrote to the Nabob of my intention to the English. But by your power I can find him. I hope in God that success will attend the man that favours me so much. By the oppression of the Government I was deprived of all power in my country. By your favour I hope to be restored to it. I cannot express my gratitude to you, but while I live I shall think myself bound to the man who has lifted me up, and whose hand has supported me. I am always ready to obey your commands. I was on my march towards you when I heard the news of your victory with great pleasure. You are the revenger of injuries and the support of the oppressed. I heartily congratulate you on this great victory. This has opened me a way to your friendship. Now favour me as you please. Kirparam Monshie waits on you and will petition you on my behalf.

No. 188.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the Rajah of Beerboom, July 3rd, 1757.

Your agreeable letter by Kirparam Monshie I have received and have considered the contents. I recommended you to the Nabob and Rajah Dulub Ram before your Monshie arrived. If you chuse to visit here, come with a few people and my house is at your service.

No. 189.] From COLONEL CLIVE to BALLEROY, the Mahratta General, July 5th, 1757.

By your letter to the Governour of Calcutta and from your servant Roy Govinroy I am informed of your kind offers and intentions towards the English of which they will ever retain a grateful remembrance. They would have courted your friendship and alliance had not we been under previous engagements. From your servant Roy Govinroy and the mouth of the whole world you will have heard the bad character of Siraja Doula, and how universally he was detested by his own subjects. You will have also heard that on the arrival here from Chinapatam to demand justice for the injuries he had done the English Company he came down against me with a numerous army which by the blessing of God, I defeated in a battle fought the 5th of February, and obliged him to enter into a Treaty, whereby he engaged to restore to the Company all he had taken from them; that our enemies should be his and his ours, and many other articles. In full reliance of the sacredness of his oath, I put my army into quarters and quietly waited the execution of the Treaty. But e'er a month was passed without the least provocation on my part I found that he was entered into engagements with our bitter enemies, the French, to drive us again from his province. Self-preservation obliged me to march towards his capital to demand justice of him. He scorned my friendship and met me with a numerous army on the plains of Placis, where by the Divine assistance I gained a most compleat victory over him, and followed him till night sheltered him from further pursuit. All his cannon, camp, and baggage fell into my hands, and in two days I reached the capital where by the consent and approbation of all the great men, Meer Mahmud Jaffer Cawn Bahadre, was declared Nabob of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa. As he is a very brave and good man and universally beloved, I hope by the blessing of God these provinces will flourish under his Government, and he will be as able as he is willing to pay you the customary chout. The great friendship that subsists between your Excellency and the English and the strict engagements we have entered into with the Nabob, induces me to offer myself as mediator to recommend friendship between you. It appears that Mohabut Jung agreeable to your writing paid the chout to Rago Gee Bossala and Siraja Doula to Jannugee. I have represented to the Nabob that it will be proper for him to pay it to whomsoever you direct. He being a prudent and wise man has agreed, and by the blessing of God he will not deviate from what I desire and you write.

No. 190.] From Colonel Clive to the Mohie Rajah, July 5th, 1757.

The great regard I have for your nephew, the Rajah of Beerboom, who has shewn his friendship to the English by his intention to join me with all the forces he could collect induces me to write you this friendly letter to inform you, that it has pleased God to bless me in a signal victory gained over our enemy in a battle fought the 23rd of the last month on the plains of Placis. His camp, cannon, and baggage fell into my hands and I pursued his army till night came on. I continued my march to the city where by the consent and approbation of all the great men and to the great joy of everybody, the good and brave Meer Mahmud Jaffer Cawn Bahadre, was declared Nabob of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa, and the English have entered into the strictest friendship with him, his enemies shall be ours and ours his; and I am determined to support him with my whole force. I recommend it to you to acknowledge and pay him due obedience, and I desire you will use the best endeavours to seize all the French under your Government, which I shall esteem the greatest act of friendship you can do me. As by the blessing of God Siraja Doula is since fallen into the hands of his enemy, these provinces enjoy the most perfect tranquillity.

No. 191.] Colonel Clive to Ramnarain, Naib of Patna, July 5th, 1757.

As Siraja Doula, regardless of the engagements he had entered into with the English, and of the oath which he had swore by God and his Prophet, had concerted measures in conjunction with the French to drive us again out of his country, I therefore marched against him, and on the plains of Placis, God blessed me with victory. His cannon, camp, and baggage fell into my hands and my victorious army pursued him to Muxadavad, where not being able to stand his ground he fled towards Purneo, where the Choqueys endeavoured to stop him; he resisting, was slain by them. By the consent and approbation of all the great men, Meer Mahmud Jaffer Cawn, was declared Nabob, and has been acknowledged as such to the universal joy of all that have heard it. The English have entered into a Treaty, whereby they have solemnly sworn to assist him against all his enemies with their whole force. I therefore recommend it to you to acquire his favour by a ready obedience to his commands, and that you give orders that he be proclaimed and acknowledged throughout the province under your Government. As it is an article of the Treaty between us that His Excellency's enemies shall be mine and ours his, I therefore expect that you will use your best endeavours to seize and deliver up to me Mons. Law and all the French and their servants in the province under your command, by which you will acquire my friendship.

No. 192.] From COLONEL CLIVE to RAMNARAIN, Naib of Patna, July 5th, 1757.

It has pleased God to punish Siraja Doula for the capture of Calcutta and his evil conduct to his own people ever since. He is now no more. I have advice from Rajahmaul that the French are arrived there, and I this day send a party that if they come up with them will be able to take them prisoners. Should they not come up with them and should they return to Patna, if you have any expectation of the Nabob's favour or any regard for my friendship, you will immediately seize on them and send them to me. I repeat it that in doing this you will save me the trouble of sending forces to Patna, and you will acquire the Nabob's favour and my friendship.

No. 193.] From RAJAH SEROOP CHUND to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^{d}. July 6th, 1757.

I thank God that he has blest you with so great a victory; it gave me infinite satisfaction. I was praying to God that you might increase in riches and power, and it has been as my heart desired. I have before acquainted you with my own condition. My country has been distrest by the misfortunes of Calcutta. When you past this way your letter gave me, great confidence. I hope your favour will continue towards me, and that I shall be freed from the oppressions I labour under. What they are Mr. Watts will explain to you. Doctor Ramjan waits on you to petition you on my behalf.

No. 194.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, July 7th, 1757.

Whenever I write to your Excellency' by way of complaint it gives me infinite concern and more especially so when it is upon a subject in which I think the English interest suffers. This I am certain of that anything wrong is foreign to your principles and the natural goodness of your heart and if anything be amiss it must be owing to your ministers.

It is now several days that Messrs. Watts and Walsh have attended at the Treasury to see what was agreed upon between your Excellency and the English in presence of Juggat Seat, and by his mediation put in execution, but their attendance has been to no manner of purpose, and without your Excellency comes to some resolution what is to be paid in plate, what in cloth, and what in jewels, and give absolute orders to your servants to begin, nothing will be done. I am very anxious to see the money matters settled, for while they remain otherwise your enemies and mine will always, from self-interested principles, be endeavouring to create disputes and differences between us, which can only afford pleasure and hope to our enemies, for the English interest and yours are but one, we must rise and fall together; if any accident should happen to you, which God forbid, there will be an end of the English Company.

I chose to send your Excellency my thoughts in writing. The subject were of too tender a nature for me to discourse on by word of mouth.

Translation of a letter from the NABOB to MONSIEUR LAW. July 10th, 1757.

As Siraja Doula is now no more, and there is the strictest alliance subsisting between me and the English, whose enemies are mine and mine theirs, you cannot expect my protection. I have given orders to all the Jammaulders, Bhadars, Killadars, and Mutsuddies to deprive you of all supplies of provisions and to attack you wherever they meet you. I therefore recommend it to you as the most prudent step you can take to deliver yourself with all your party to the English. You may rely on their humane treatment. That your officers having given their parole may depart wherever they please, and your men will be kept till exchanged.

Translation of a letter from **Monsieur Law** to the Nabob, July 7th. Recd. July 11th, 1757.

Khodawund Niammut—Being now acquainted with the news of your obtaining the Subaship, I am greatly pleased therewith. God grant you prosperity. I was no servant of the Nabob Siraja Doula, but was servant to the Subah. I am now fallen into great troubles. Had you, Sir, been Subadar before, it never had been thus with me. Now at Rajamaul I have heard that this English have destroyed the factory of Sydabad and taken everything away. On this account I cannot stay in this country, therefore desire what your orders are with regard to me. Now agreeable to Aga Nizam's letter I am going to stay at Patna. But I shall act as you order me. Of this I am persuaded that your heart is clear towards me. I am an enemy only to the English.

Translation of a letter from the **Nabob** to **Monsieur Law**, July 13th, 1757.

I have received your letter. You must undoubtedly know that I have entered into a Treaty with the English whereby their enemies are mine and mine theirs. By the customs of your own nation you will know that it becomes Princes to be firm to their agreement. I shall be so to mine. I advise you to come to terms with the English. They will return all your own and officers' private effects that are at Sydabad. But if you will war with them I shall act accordingly to my agreement with them.

No. 195.] From **Colonel Clive** to **Raja Seroop Chund**, July 14th, 1757.

I have received your letter. It will allways be a pleasure to me to assist those that are under misfortunes.

No. 196.] From **Colonel Clive** to the **Nabob**, July 15th, 1757.

Whenever I write to your Excellency it is the same as if I was writing to my father. Such regard and friendship as a son has for his father, such have I for your Excellency, and whenever I have any favour to request it is for your Excellency's advantage.

I hear the first of the New Moon you intend to nominate all your officers. I shall take it as a particular favour if your Excellency will permit me to see a list of them, and if I hear there be any that are not attached to your Excellency's person, I will acquaint you with it, it being my duty to do so.

No. 197.] From **Hafizula Cawn**, the eldest son of **Suffraze Cawn**, to **Colonel Clive**. Recd. July 19th, 1757.

For the Prophet Jesus's sake reflect on and free me from my present distressed condition. I am broken-hearted and in a strange country. You are the favoured of the poor, I beseech your protection. Shew me favour, Sir, for I have neither friend nor patron in the world but yourself. Hearing of you they sent me from Dacca, and wanted and still want to destroy me, my wife, my children, and our whole family. If you will shew me favour my life will be saved. My pen cannot describe what I suffer. My coka (nurse's son) carrys this: he will acquaint you with further particulars.

No. 198.] From **Colonel Clive** to **Roy Dullub**, July 21st, 1757.

The weight of the Government's affairs is now on you; you have our friendship in your power. Don't look on it as of little consideration, for by your friendship and protection you shall tread firm. I always persuade myself you look on the Company's business as your own. I therefore write you that there is nothing in this world that I have so much at heart as to drive out the French. I have just now received news that Ramnarain, regardless of what the Nabob and myself have wrote, instead of stopping the French has let them go on to

Patna, and there is even now one innocent residing at their factory, and their broadcloth and many other goods are sent to Meer Absul's house and he has received them. The Nabob's honour and mine are one, and I look on it that Ramnarain in acting contrary to what we both wrote has effected us both. When I reflect on the delay there has been in this affair anger takes place of friendship. Know that I will never forgive those that have been guilty in this business. I write to you as a friend, that you send express orders to have the above Frenchmen seized and sent to me, their factory laid even with the earth, and their goods sent here, that they may be delivered to Juggat Seat to pay off their debts. That Meer Absul be acquainted with your displeasure, and that Law and his party be attacked wherever they can be found; their passage and provisions stopt and that he distress them in every way that is possible. I herewith send you the 3rd article of the Treaty: observe it.

No. 199.] From Roy Dulub to Colonel Clive, Dated and rec^{d} July 22nd, 1757.

I have received your agreeable note wherein you acquaint me that Ramnarain had disregarded the letters sent from hence. The Rajah has not considered his own interest in not obeying the orders sent him: he has done very bad.

Now that by the blessing of God our friendship is grown strong, what signifies the French. If Ramnarain does not obey us we together will punish him. Nevertheless I write to the Rajah in the most express terms as you desire me. If he obeys it is well; if not they both shall be punished in the twinkling of an eye. Allways be assured of this, that I am yours, equally absent or present, and that I shall look on your business as my own. Affairs shall go according to the note you enclosed to me.

No. 200.] From Mulna Fukeerudin to Colonel Clive. Rec^{d} July 22nd, 1757.

I did myself the honour to write to you which I assure myself you have read. The fame of your perfect success has spread over these parts. It has filled me with joy from the time I heard it. By the grace of God and by your own great valour and courageous conduct you have won battles, stormed towns, and done as your heart desired. The renown of your great actions is gone through all countrys, and is known to all mankind. Myself and all your friends are ever praying to God that you may daily increase in glory and happiness. My wife prays for your health. Till I have the happiness to see you I hope you will write me of your health.

No. 201.] From Coja Wazeed to Colonel Clive. Rec^{d}. July 24th, 1757.

I have not words to express my earnest desire to see you. God send it may be soon. It is a long time since I have had a letter from you. A gracious letter is half worth a visit. What my Patna gomastah has wrote me Sera Bauboo will communicate to you. The contents surprize me. I hope you will enquire into it, and do me justice. I say this because I hope you esteem my business as your own.

No. 202.] From Rajah Ramnarain to Colonel Clive. No date. Rec^{d} July 28th, 1757.

I have with pleasure received your agreeable note, wherein you write me Mons^{r}. Law is arrived at Rajahmaul. That you had sent your forces to meet him, and that if he should stay there he would fall into your hands, but if he should take the Patna or other road that I should send forces to lay hold of him. You have much obliged me in writing me thus. Before I had received your letter on this affair, he through fear had secretly made off on the other side of the river, and is gone out of this province. Had you wrote me before I had certainly obstructed him. How could he have withstood me. I am ready to follow whatever advice Mr. Pearkies, your gomastah, may give me.

A note enclosed.

I now understand your forces are in pursuit of Mons^{r}. Law and are arrived near the province. As the forces here are yours, there was no necessity to send your troops. If you think so it will be proper your forces should return.

Another note enclosed.

Agreeable to Mr. Pearkies (your gomastah) his advice, I have sent a body of men after Mr. Law and I am ready to assist him: in everything I look on the acting agreeable to your pleasure as a happiness.

No. 203.] From COLONEL CLIVE to AALUMGEER SAUNEE, King of Hindostan, July 30th 1757.

The English Company were first settled in Bengal by a phirmaund from the great Emperor Aalumgeer, whom God grant a seat in Paradise, and by the favour of his successors the Company became great merchants, always attending to their trade. The Subadars, sensible how much the great wealth brought by us into the country contributed to make the country flourish, and to the increase of the royal revenues, allways encouraged and protected them; and this continued till the death of Mohabut Jung and Calcutta was become a great town and crores collected in it. He was succeeded by Siraja Dowla, who even before he had received the royal phirmaund, declared war against the English; and regardless of the representations of Jaggat Seat and Marajah Seroop Chund, and of the petition presented him by the English Governour, he marched with a numerous army against Calcutta. The English, who as merchants were destitute of all implements of war, were easily defeated and Siraja Dowla took and plundered Calcutta the 20th June 1756 and all the great men and other Englishmen that fell into his hands were by his orders suffocated in one night. Admiral Charles Watson and myself, both servants to the King of England, came to revenge these injuries with a powerful army. We repossessed ourselves of the ruins of Calcutta and a few days after drove his people from Hughley. Siraja Dowla priding himself in the number of his troops came down with a great army against Calcutta which by the blessing of God I defeated the 5th of February 1757. But reflecting how injurious war would be to your Majesty's dominions, and that it was proper to live in love and friendship with the Subahs of these provinces, I made peace with him and agreed to certain articles in favour of the Company, to the performance of which he swore by God and his Prophet, and a few days after broke his oath and joined with the enemies of the English to destroy them. I marched my forces towards Muxadavad to demand the fulfilling the Treaty, and wrote to him several times in a friendly way to desire he would comply with the articles he had entered into. He scorned my friendship and met me with a numerous army on the plains of Placis, over which I, (by the blessing of God) obtained a compleat victory, the 23rd June 1757. He retreated to the city nor stopped there, but continued his flight and was killed by his servants who followed him to demand their pay. In the end, by the consent of all the great men of the city, Jaffer Cawn Bahadre succeeded him, a man just and merciful as his predecessor was wicked and cruel. He therefore beseeches your Majesty that you will grant him a sunnud for the Subaship of these three provinces. I have joined him with 25,000 matchless sepoys, and if it please God there shall be nothing wanting to make the country flourish and the subjects happy. I kept my army out of the city nor permitted them to plunder the least thing. I am always ready with my life to obey your Majesty's commands.

No. 204.] From COLONEL CLIVE to GHAZHI-UD-DIN CAWN, Prince Vizier of the Empire and Imitatior of Assoff, dated August 1st 1757.

The destruction of Calcutta by Siraja Dowla and the cruel death of all our great men is known to the whole world and has undoubtedly been represented to your Excellency. To revenge these injuries myself and Admiral Charles Watson, servants to the King of England and commanders of his forces came into this country with an army and retook the ruins of Calcutta. A few days after we drove Siraja Dowla's people from Hugley. But I always expressed a strong desire for peace. He priding himself in the number of his forces came down against me, but, by the blessing of God, I defeated his army the 5th of February 1757, but reflecting how prejudicial war would be to his Majesty's dominions, and that it was proper to live in friendship with the Subah, I made peace with him, and he swore before God and his Prophet to certain articles in favour of the Company. A few days after he meditated by a union with the enemies of the English to drive them again from his country, and broke his Treaty. To procure the execution of the Treaty I marched with my forces towards his capital. I wrote him several times on terms of friendship to desire his compliance with it, but he scorning my friendship met me on the plains of Placis with a numerous army. There likewise by the blessing of God I entirely defeated him. He fled to the city nor stopt there but continuing his flight was killed. In the end Meer Mahmud Jaffer Cawn was declared his successor with the consent of all the great men, a man good, brave, and merciful as his predecessor was wicked and cruel. He is in hopes by your favour to obtain the Sunnud for these provinces. I have joined the Cawn with 25,000 matchless sepoys. By the blessing of God there will be no endeavours spared to make the country flourish. My army halted without the city and no one has had cause of complaint. I have wrote these particulars to His Majesty and have hopes that your Excellency, who bears the burden of his affairs, will present my humble address, and that my request will be approved, and that I shall receive a gracious Phirmaund and Husbul Hookum.

No. 205.] From COLONEL CLIVE to MAHMUD ALLY CAWN BAHADRE, NABOB of Arcot, dated 4th August 1757.

The last time I wrote you I was in hopes ere this to have had the pleasure of embracing you in Arcot. My heart has long desired to be with you, but Providence has kept me here for glorious purposes, and that pleasure is reserved to a more distant time. I before wrote you I had made peace with Siraja Dowla on moderate terms in hopes to gain his confidence and friendship, and that the Company's trade might be immediately re-established; but regardless of our generous and friendly conduct towards him, and the solemn oath he had taken, he meditated by a conjunction with our old enemies the French, to drive us again from his country, and wrote repeated letters to invite Mons^{r}. Bussy for the purpose. I gave him frequent warnings of the ill consequences of this conduct, but he still persisting, we were necessitated once more to try the chance of war. Accordingly, on the 13th June, having assembled our forces, I began my march towards his capital, and on the 23rd June at day-break his whole army, consisting of 100,000 men, appeared in sight on the extensive plains of Placis. The battle immediately began, and at 4 in the evening God declared for us, and this vast army was entirely defeated. Many of his principal officers and 4,000 men were left on the field of battle. 40 pieces of cannon and all his camp and baggage fell into our hands, and in a few days Siraja Dowla was killed by them that pursued them. Nothing now prevented me possessing myself of Muxadavad with its immense wealth in revenge for the injuries of Calcutta, but I came not to this country to destroy it. I encamped without the city and left it to the great men to choose a successor who declared themselves in favour of Jaffer Ally Cawn, a very brave and good man, who has since been universally and with joy acknowledged throughout these provinces. Besides the many advantages and honour the Company will receive by this happy event, I have also the pleasure to acquaint you that there is not in all these provinces one Frenchman but what is my prisoner, and I hope they have for ever lost all footing in Bengal. All the great men here testify their esteem for me, and have wrote to Court to obtain for me a great title and a 6,000 Mansub,* which I hope to receive shortly. The great desire I have to see you checks the joy of this vast success. How happy shall I be if the Company's affairs will admit of my returning shortly to the Coast, for there is nothing in this world that I desire more than to fight in your cause, and to have an opporunity of giving you daily proofs of the sincere friendship and respect I bear you.

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* Munsub, properly Mansab, Munsub. H.—Office dignity; a military title and rank conferred by the Moghul government of Delhi, regulated by the number of the holder of the title could, if required, bring into the field, varying from ten to ten thousand; jagirs were assigned for the maintenance of this force, which were in the highest and lowest grades, rather nominal than real: the first part of a *sanad*, or grant, in which the titles of the grantee were recited.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

No. 206] From **Colonel Clive** to **Salabut Jung Bahadre**, Nizam of Deckan, dated 7th August 1757.

I did myself the honour to write to you by your Vacqueel a little before I left Madras. I then told you what infinite concern it gave me that I could not wait on you agreeable to your desire. Nothing less than the utter destruction of the Company's affairs in these parts prevented me. By the blessing of God Calcutta was soon retaken. After which the Nabob coming down in person with a great army was entirely defeated This induced him to make peace with us. Far from pursuing the maxims of the French in demanding great priviledges and territories, we were satisfied with the re-establishment of the Company's affairs, and a confirmation of the priviledges granted us by the Royal Phirmaund. I was in hopes this moderation would have gained us the confidence and friendship of Siraja Dowla. So very far from it, by the instigation of our enemies the French he invited Mons^r^. Bussy letter after letter to drive us out a second time being entirely bent on our ruin. This conduct reduced us to the necessity of using every method in our power to prevent it. Accordingly, on the 13th June, having assembled all our forces we began our march towards his capital, and met his whole army, consisting of 100,000 fighting men, on the plains of Placis, about 10 coss from his capital, which by the blessing of God we entirely defeated taking their camp, cannon, and baggage. Siraja Dowla was slain in the pursuit. We continued our march and encamped in sight of Muxadavad. Nothing now prevented us from possessing ourselves of that city and its immense wealth by way of retaliation for the destruction of Calcutta, but this was not my intention. All was quiet as if nothing had happened. The great men were left to choose another Subah, which choice fell unanimously on Jaffir Ally Cawn to the great joy of the three provinces. It has pleased the Nabob to be very gracious and generous to us, but we have been far from making use of this friendship to his own detriment in requesting provinces of him, as I hear the French have done with your Excellency. Neither do we interfere with his Government in any respect whatever, but are following our usual vocations of trade, for the truth of which I refer you to the account which you will receive from others.

It is with the greatest grief of heart that I hear the French have put such an indignity on your Excellency as to take the English settlements in your country. The English have never done anything to merit your resentment and ought to have had your protection. The shame will fall on you who suffered a settlement of merchants to be drove out of your country, who had resided there many years and greatly enriched it by trade. When I think of these things my mind is filled with revenge and resentment against the French, and if your Excellency will give me leave I will march into those provinces to punish them for it. If your Excellency will but seriously reflect within yourself on the great discredit which they have brought on your name by their large possessions in your country even against your own inclination, your Excellency cannot but think on them in the same light as we do, and must be equally interested with us to drive them entirely out of your Subaship. The English desire nothing but what they formerly possessed; let them have that and they will be satisfied. Our view in these countrys is trade; when we act as soldiers it is from necessity. To show you how great a share the French had in bringing on these troubles, I enclose you copy of Siraja Dowla's letter to Mons^{r}. D. Leyreh, Governor of Pondicherry.

[Translate of the Sunnud granted the Honorable Company by **Meer Jaffer Cawn.**]

To all Mutsuddies, present or future, all Naibs, Phousdars, Zemindars, Chowdrees, Cannangoes, &c., servants of the Government in the Provinces of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa.

Know that by the Royal Phirmaund and Husbul Hookums the English Company are (pardoned) exempt from all duties.

Therefore I write

That whatever goods the Company's gomastahs may bring or carry to or from their factories, the aurungs, or other places by land or by water with a dustuck from any of the Chiefs of their factories, you shall neither ask for, nor receive any sum however trifling on the same.

Know they have full power to buy and sell; you are by no means to hinder it. You are not to require from the Company's gomastahs the Settee,* manghan,† or any other of the Zemindars' impositions.

The Company's gomastahs shall buy or sell the Company's goods without the intervention of the delolls, unless the Company's gomastahs chuse to employ them.

You are to assist them on lawful occasions whenever they buy or sell.

Whoever acts contrary to these orders the English have full power to punish them.

If any of the Company's goods are stolen at any aurung or other place, you are to recover the very effects stolen, or make good their amount.

Any merchants or others on whom the Company have any lawful demand you are to see that the same be paid to their gomastahs.

Take care that no one wrong or oppress the Company's gomastahs.

You are not to require or stop their boats on pretence of the katbarra‡ or other duties on boats, whether they be the Company's own boats, or boats hired by their gomastahs.

You are to give credit to the copy of the Sunnud granted the Company under the Kazee's seal without requiring the original.

Any of the Company's debtors running away from them you are not to give them protection, or plead for them, but are to deliver them up to the Chiefs of their factorys.

The Phousdary Khurch,§ &c., impositions of the Phousdars, which are forbid by the King, you shall not demand of the English, their gomastahs or tennants. Whenever the Company desire to settle a factory besides those they already possess in the Provinces of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa, you are to give them 40 begas of the King's land.

If any of the English ships are driven by bad weather or wrecked in any of the ports or other places, you are to give them all the assistance you can and see that their cargoes be delivered to the Company, and you are not to demand the chauthai,‖ &c., which the King has forbid.

A mint is established in Calcutta to coin siccas and goldmohurs of equal weight and fineness with the siccas and goldmohurs of Muxadavad. They shall pass in the King's Treasury. All that I have wrote above must be done. Do as I have wrote, nor ask a new Sunnud every year. The 27th of the Moon Shaval and 4th of the King's reign being the 15th July 1757.

Translate of the Sunnud of the Mint, to the high and mighty bold and valiant Commanders, the greatest of Merchants, the English Company, on whom may the King's favour rest for ever.

A mint has been established in Calcutta, continue coining gold and silver into siccas and mohurs of the same weight and standard with those of Muxadavad. The impression to be Calcutta they shall pass current in the provinces of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa and be received into the Kharannah. There shall be no obstruction or difficulty for Kussoor¶ under the seal of Fidvi-i-Aalumgeer Padsha Gauzi Sujah-ul-Mulck Hissam-ud-Doula, Meer Mahmud Jaffir Cawn Bahadre, Mohabut Jung, 11th Zikada and 4th of the King's reign.

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* Seth, H. etc., Set, Setí, Sethí, from Shet, etc., and corruptly, Setti, Shaitee, Shuitee. Mar. Seti or Sethi. Tam Setti, whence the common appellation of a trader from the Coromandel Coast Chitty. Tel. Satti or plur, honorific, Sattiru also Setti. Karn. A merchant, a banker, a trader a chief, merchant: often used in connection with the name as a respectful designation, as Jagat-Seth. In some places the Sethí, or Seth, is the head of the mercantitle or trading body, excercing authority over them in matters of caste and business, and as their representative, with the Government (the different forms are all from the S. Sreshtha, best or chief, the chief of a corporation; also a merchant or banker.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

† Mangna, Margana. S. Mangan. Hindi, Mangan. or Mangna. Beng., asking, begging, requiring; whence borrowing; asking for a loan; also a cess or impost formerly levied to defray the allowance of the public weigher of grain; also an unauthorised exaction by the native officer at landing-places and custom stations, asking a fee for themselves or the zamindars. In Bahar, a fee or perquisite of the headman receivable from the villagers in kind; a share of the crop.—*Ibid.*

‡ Kattabari—A staff or polá, about six feet, used in measuring land.—*Ibid.*

‖ Chauthai, H.—A fourth; a fine equal to a fourth of the revenue.—*Ibid.*

§ Kharch, Khurch, or Kharcha, or more correctly, Kharj, Khur of which it is the Hindustani modification, corruptly, Khirch, Kurtch, Khurchee (pl. Ikhrajat; from Kharaja went forth), it occurs in most dialects in the first form; as Kharach. Beng. Kharcha. Mar. Kharcha. Tel. Expense, disbursement, out-goings: the authorised expenses incurred by a village or district, and set off against the revenue receipts, or a cess levied upon the cultivators to provide for expenses; the debit side of an account; the account of the disbursements or out-going.—*Ibid.*.

¶ Kasúr or Kusur—Fault, offence, crime deficiency, defeat; allowance for difference in the value of coins; a cess formerly levied upon the cultivators to cover any difference that might occur between the value of the coins paid by them and the standard currency.—*Ibid.*

No. 207.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, Calcutta, dated 12th August 1757.

I have the pleasure to inform you I arrived here on Monday, and found gratitude and zealous attachment to your Excellency to be the universal sentiments of this place. It is with some concern that I hear your Excellency has changed your sentiments with regard to Ramnarian from what we all agreed on, when I had the pleasure to be with you in company with Maraja Serrop-Chund and Roy Dulub. Whether your suspicions of Mahmud Ami Cawn are justly founded or not, I can be no judge, but Ramnarain's conduct must nevertheless deserve your resentment, and I can only repeat what I have so often represented to you, that unless you chastise some of these treacherous and turbulent dispositions, every petty Rajah will dare disobedience. I esteem it my duty always to give your Excellency such advice as my mind suggests to be for your honour and prosperity, and be assured you will always find me ready to expose my life in your service. Dilhur Jung will wait on you and explain Major Coote's letters to you. He will be ready to consult with you and obey your orders in all military affairs, and Major Coote will continue at Patna or return just as you think fit to direct, and I repeat by writing what I have often had the honour to represent to your Excellency, that there is an absolute necessity for your taking the field as soon as the season will admit. I understand there are already several Rajahs who are raising forces with a design to refuse paying the revenues. Your future happiness depends on a great measure on your exerting yourself at first, and showing them that you are in a condition to chastise any one that shall incur your displeasure. I shall be with you myself shortly. I have ordered our army into different parts, and intend to return to Chandernagore to prepare everything to accompany your Excellency when the season will permit the armies to take the field, and with the blessing of God you will be as much the terror of your enemies as you are beloved by your subjects.

No. 208.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^d^. 25th August 1757.

I received your letter with an account of your health and happiness in which you write me to consider of many affairs, and after the rains that it is absolutely necessary to punish the disobedient for this reason that without exerting it is very difficult to get any business done to our satisfaction. You write that you have directed your army in all places to prepare materials for war, that they may join me after the rains all which I am acquainted with. I rejoice at your health and happiness, your setting your heart on the finishing my affairs has greatly increased my friendship; what you have considered on is right: please God you arrive here and I have the happiness of meeting you: what we shall then agree on according to the times must be done, I hope till I see you. You will frequently advise me of your health.

No. 209.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^d^. August 26th, 1757.

The melancholy news of the Admiral's death was communicated to me by your and Omar Beg's letter. I have not words to express my grief on the occasion. It is our duty to submit with cheerfulness. I recommend it to you not to be too much affected at this unhappy event, but to inspire the gentlemen and inhabitants of Calcutta with confidence. God preserve you and all the Chiefs in health. I have answered Admiral Pocock's letters.

Translation of a letter from OMAR KULI CAWN, Agent for NABOB JAFFER CAWN at SHUJA-UD-DOULA'S Court, to OMAR BEG CAWN BAHADRE.

Affairs stand thus at present.

Everybody is desirous to quarrel with you that they may partake of the Paddums (*i.e.*, Paddum is a hundred crore) of Muxadavad. I have wrote to everybody that Meer Jaffer Cawn, the Subah is a great soldier and a Saiad. But your reputation is lost by the Fringees having defeated you. Therefore they all cry out they are no soldiers in Bengal and there's great riches, let us enter and possess ourselves of it. I wrote them for answer that Omar Beg went in behalf of Meer Jaffer Cawn and entered into a treaty with them to bring them against Siraja Doula. Meer Jaffir and they are one. It is necessary the Nabob should shew himself a soldier, should be free of his treasures, for it is not soldiery alone that will do it, nor with money only. Have no regard to its being the ruins, but let him come to Patna and enlist the soldiers of this part of the country. If on account of the rains you forbear coming to Patna depend on it they will fall on you. Rajah Ramnarain can't stand it a minute. If they hear the Nabob is got there himself they will be intimidated. The Rajah of Benares has wrote several times to Shuja-ud-Doula to enter the country, or that Patna is empty.

No. 210.] Translation of a letter from SHUJA-UD-DOULA, NABOB of OWD, to MAJOR COOTE, dated 13th August. Rec.d September 1st, 1757.

The letter you wrote me advising the driving out Mr. Law and the other Frenchmen and desiring me that as you have a zealous regard for my welfare and are my friend that I should oppose them, I have received and perused. But before the receipt of this letter, in consideration of the former friendship between us I wrote expressly to Bulwunt Sing Bahadre to prevent their passage into my boundarys. But by the humble address of Bulwunt Sing it appears the French before his receiving my purwannah had proceeded towards Deckan. In future I shall let no one pass. Be confident of me in every thing and always acquaint me with your welfare.

No. 211.] From RAJA RAMNARAIN to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Recd. 1st September 1757.

Your friendly letter wherein you write me that the Company's saltpetre is to be brought by Coja Ashroophe and will be sent down under the Company's dustuck. I have with pleasure received and considered the contents. Before the receipt of that letter Mr. Pearkes acquainted me that 12,000 bags of saltpetre would be soon dispatched to Calcutta. Coja Ashroophe has pressed his gomastahs at Singia and Chuppra to hasten the petre. By the blessing of God it will soon be dispatched. My heart is in every respect inclined to assist the Company. With a view to the Company's good, I before gave purwannah to Mr. Pearkes of my own free will for the purchase of the Company's saltpetre.

No. 212.] From COLONEL CLIVE to COJA WAZEED, dated 4th September 1757.

I arrived here the 2nd instant in good health. I always reflect with pleasure on your agreeable and friendly behaviour to me at Chinchura. I hope God will long preserve you in your present happy condition.

Sevoo Baboo had taken his leave of the Nabob and was waiting in expectation of my arrival. He will acquaint you with the particulars of this place. It is necessary and I expect it from your friendship that you always acquaint me of your health and welfare.

No. 212A.] From OMAR BEG CAWN BAHADRE to COLONEL CLIVE. Recd the 10th of September, 1757.

Lately many goods and effects without a Company's dustuck pass in your name. Notwithstanding your orders that I should let none pass without dustucks, on Lukhi Coondoo message, and the Governor of Chandernagore's letter to me I pass them. Now three boats loaded with salt and other effects are going without dustucks in the Company's name. The Company never send salt, therefore I have not let the boats pass on your account. I am willing to submit to the loss of duty on one or two boats with salt. But the salt merchants complain and want to leave off the business. Mr. Watts and others that know the customs will inform you the Company never trade in salt. There are Tellingees in every boat ready to quarrel. The Governor of Chandernagore has wrote me to pass such boats as have Tellingees.* I send his letter enclosed. I am persuaded you are unacquainted with this. I hope you will write to the

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*Telingees properly Tilangá. H. Telangá Mar. A native of Tilang from whom the first native soldiers dressed and disciplined after the European fashion, having been raised, it came to denote a soldier, a sipáhí.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

Governor of Chandernagore not to send Tellingees on the boats. I endeavour to pursue such measures as may be satisfactory to you.

No. 213.] From Colonel Clive to Omar Beg Cawn Bahadre, September 13th, 1757.

I have received your agreeable letter and have wrote to Major Grant that he should not desire you to pass boats with salt. I suppose the reason he desires you to pass them with Tellinghis is that they belong to the officers and carry their necessaries not merchandize. You will do well to pass no boats without dustucks. I shall take my leave of the Nabob on Thursday. When we meet we will settle these affairs to our mutual satisfaction.

No. 214.] From Omar Beg Cawn Bahadre to Colonel Clive. No date. Rec^{d}. 19th September 1757.

The favour of your letter requesting me to clear two chests of taffaties, for which there was no dustuck I have received, and agreeable thereto have let them be carried away, and five bales of silk which had likewise no dustuck I cleared upon a letter from Mr. Roger Drake.

The zemindar of Calcutta has sent eight peons to Mookun, Monshore, and other zemindars, who are in my Phousdary to summon them to Calcutta. Please to enquire into this affair. By such a proceeding my office will be prejudiced. You and I are upon good and friendly terms. Whatever you write me about I will perform on account of the respect I owe you. I request you will forbid the zemindar of Calcutta to act in the manner for the future. I pray to the Almighty that our friendship may encrease. It is not right for the English peons to come into my jurisdiction and take away the zemindars or people. I want to deserve your esteem and favour.

No. 215.] From Colonel Clive to Omar Beg Cawn Bahadre, dated 20th September 1757.

Your friendly letter informing me that the zemindar of Calcutta's peons had behaved ill in your Phousdary. I have received and observed the contents. If those peons should trouble you again you will do well to punish them.

No. 216.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive. Rec^{d} 20th September 1757.

I regard you as my son. You have strongly represented to me the absolute necessity of fully discharging the twenty-five lack of rupees to be paid the land and sea forces. It gives me great concern that I have it not in my power to comply with your demands after having received so many favours from you and being under such obligations to you. When the Treaty was made and the articles relating to the donations agreed on, I then told Mr. Watts I was unacquainted with the amount of treasure that might be in the Treasury. What is not in my power to do cannot be expected from me, so it is no fault of mine. I must therefore esteem it a misfortune unavoidable, and am of opinion you gentlemen on such an occasion will not think it at all eligible I should be distressed. My engagements I still firmly adhere to and will perform to the utmost of my power. You and Mr. Watts are well satisfied there was not in the Treasury effects sufficient to discharge in full the payments agreed on within the time prefixed. Of this your friends and mine Jaggat Seat and Seroop-Chund are sufficient testimonies, Also it was agreed that the one-half should be discharged in full of which I have paid two large parts in ready cash, and one small part in goods, and I really am not able to pay the remainder at present, as my own army are in arrears, the chout to be paid to the Mahrattas, and a present to the King with the pishcash* must be sent without delay. However by God's blessing I hope the first year's payment shall be made one-half in the month of October and the remainder in the month of March following; further I cannot offer as it is not in my power. But provided you and your people are content to take jewels, &c., in payment I can then comply, or as in the Company's Treasury you have much money, if you could from thence advance what may be due to the Sea and Land Forces I will by the help of God punctually repay the same conformable to the agreement I have made.

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* Peshcash properly Peshkash, Peshkush, or Peshcush, corruptly, Peishcush, Peshkist H. Tax, tribute; lit., what is first drawn; first-fruits: fine, quit-rent: a fine or present to the ruling power on receiving an appointment or assignment of revenue, or on a renewal of a grant, or the like: in Bengal, the fine paid to the Mohammadan government by a Zamindár on his investiture: in Jonpur, a quit-rent formerly paid by Mohammadan holders of otherwise rent-free grants: under the Madras Presidency it was applied especially to contributions exacted from the great Zamindárs in the Northern Sarkárs, and from the Paligárs of the south, as a kind of quit-rent in lieu of a fixed revenue: revenue assessed upon lands once held free of revenue, or on the tenure of military service now dispensed with: it is rather laxly applied also in some places to the government demand upon the land or the land revenue.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

I hope your great men will be satisfied with these proposals and create no disputes; please to inform them of the purport of this letter. I flatter myself they will be quite satisfied of my good intentions.

No. 217.] From OMAR BEG CAWN to COLONEL CLIVE.—No date. Rec.d 22nd September 1757.

Your letter informing me that if the Calcutta peons should come again into my jurisdiction and that I should punish them I have with pleasure received. I have wrote to Mr. Roger Drake, Governor, that whenever he has any business with me to desire he will acquaint me of it, and not to give ear to the insinuations of wicked people, for by such proceedings the King's revenues must suffer. You will do me a great favour in speaking to the Governor about this affair. Please let me know when you come this way.

No. 218.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, dated 25th September 1757.

I have the pleasure to inform you that I have been arrived here eight days. I should have wrote your Excellency sooner, but I knew your holidays must have engaged your attention. Therefore I acquainted Mr. Watts with the news of this place from whom you will be informed of every thing. The French have ten ships arrived at Pondicherry, but most of them merchantmen; these people will certainly endeavour to exaggerate their numbers and strength. We have four ships arrived at Chinapatam and eleven more are daily expected. By the blessing of God with this force we shall be able to defeat our enemies. Till I have the happiness to see you I hope you will oblige me with the news of your health.

No. 219.] From COLONEL CLIVE to ROY DULUB, dated 29th September 1757.

There is no such ties of friendship subsisting between us that I shall hide nothing from you; the Nabob's, yours, and my interest are all one.

You have already been informed that the French have had ten ships arrived. Whether they are ships of force I cannot certainly learn; if they are they must have brought a great many men with them. Mons. Bussy may perhaps endeavour to conclude an alliance with Shuja-ud-Doula and come this way. The intelligence I have received from Mr. Watts makes it necessary to give to the Nabob of Owd sweet words till our Nabob has taken the field and arrived at Patna. He may then conclude a peace with Shuja-ud-Doula on more advantageous terms than he possibly can at Muxadavad.

The Hindostan Empire appears to me in so unsettled a condition that it would be great folly in the Nabob to make any considerable presents till he knows who is uppermost and holds the reign of Government.

I have just now received the agreeable news that Salabut Jung is surrounded by his younger brother, Nizam Ally Cawn, and in great danger of being taken prisoner, and that Mons. Bussy is gone with his whole force to assist him.

Write me of your health. What can I say more?

No. 220.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, dated 30th September 1757.

It is with great pleasure I hear that Rajaram is endeavouring to obtain your Excellency's pardon by a full submission, and that Ramnarain intends to wait upon you at Muxadavad. To see you reign in perfect peace and security possessing the love and respect of all your subjects is my constant wish and the object of my whole endeavours. Foreign enemies will never then dare to invade your kingdoms. I have not as yet had a particular account of the force that the French ships have brought It may possibly be large. Should they enter into an alliance with Shuja-ud-Doula troubles might arise and affairs grow serious, especially if the Behar and Midnapore countries were not settled. This I imagine can be easier and better effected by gentle means than by force. I am busy in sending away the French of Chandernagore to the coast, and in preparing myself to accompany you after the rains in your march to the northward. The fate of the English is twisted with yours like two threads: one cannot be broke without the other, and by being thus united we become strong.

Since writing the above I have certain information that Salabut Jung's younger brother, Nizam Ally Cawn, has rebelled against him, and is supported by the Mahrattas and many of the principal men of Deccan. Salabut Jung wrote pressingly for Mons^r^. Bussy to come to his assistance who accordingly marched towards Hydrabad. In all appearance Salabut Jung and the French will suffer.

No. 221.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, dated 2nd October 1757.

I have information from Patna that some evil designs are hatching there. Mr. Watts will acquaint you with the particulars. Whether true or false I cannot yet determine, however it is proper to be always upon our guard. Whenever you have occasion for me write me and I will set out immediately.

No. 222.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, October 2nd, 1757.

I have just heard from Mr. Watts that two of your Jemidars have rebelled against you in the Purneo country, and set up the brother of Shokat Jung. Yesterday I informed you of some bad designs at Patna. All these things make it necessary that you should take the field as soon as possible, and exert yourself in an extraordinary manner. You know I am always ready to assist you with my force and advice. It is with much concern I hear that Caddem Hossein Cawn and Golam Caddem Russoul have not shewn that courage and fidelity for your service as they ought. Whenever you find any of your Jemidars wanting either in fidelty or courage you should always turn them out of your service. I would advise you not to delay a moment in sending forces under a good Jemidar to put an end to this rebellion. I have ordered Captain Grant with a detachment of military sepoys and cannon to be in readiness to assist and join whomsoever you may think proper to send into that country.

I have always looked upon you in the light of my father, and often told you how necessary it is to make as many friends as possible, and gain the love and affection of your Jemidars and soldiers. Now that troubles are coming on and that you must march to the north, you should leave no enemies behind you. For that reason I would have you make matters with Rajaram Hircarrah. He has wrote me a letter that he is your slave and ready to obey your orders, begs that he may have your favour and protection and enjoy his posts as before, and will pay you one lack of rupees. I would have you by all means make matters up with him for the present.

If you value your own safety and honor in all things follow the advice of the Seats and Roy Dullub Ram and all will end well.

No. 223.] From the NABOB of Arcot to COLONEL CLIVE, dated 5th September. Rec^d^. 5th October 1757.

I have with great pleasure received your letter informing me of your success against the Nabob of Bengal and the French at Chandernagore. Captain MacKelyne has been with me and told me of your gallant actions in Bengal and your friendship for me. The reason of my deferring so long an answer to your letter was the death of four of my daughters in one month. In Arcot we have had a pestilence, which has destroyed many. This and many other affairs, which would be tiresome to you to particularize, has occasioned my long silence, but there is not a day passes that I do not remember you, and have an inexpressible desire of seeing you, which I hope will be very soon. I have many weighty affairs to transact which I should be glad of your advice and counsel in. Our interest is mutual. I trust that when you have concluded matters in Bengal to your satisfaction, you will send for my Naib (Deputy) and give him the charge of the country. There are with me several great understanding men of those parts. I write this from the friendship subsisting between us. Always write me of your health and the news of those parts.

Wrote in his own hand—By the favor of God and your bravery I hope to get possession of Bengal. I am come to Madras, but not seeing you I see nothing.

No. 224.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. No. date. Rec^d. 8th October 1757.

Your friendly letter informing me you had advice from Patna that some evil designs were hatching against me there, and that Mr. Watts would inform me of everything I have received, but Mr. Watts had left this place before your letter arrived. As yet I have not had the least news of this from Patna. If it should please God that there should be troubles that way I shall not fail of acquainting you immediately and deserving the assistance of your troops.

No. 225.] From OMAR BEG CAWN to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^d. 8th October 1757.

The Nabob has wrote me to publish in all places under my jurisdiction that Calcutta siccas are to pass current. At Chinchura there is a number of bankers and merchants. For this reason I sent to the Dutch Chief to desire he would publish it to those people, but he gave me no answer, nor has he done it.

Some of my people have been complaining to me that the Chinchura inhabitants had used them ill. I desired the Governour to send these people to me that I might enquire into the affair, but he would not send them. The behaviour of the Dutch in this, and in refusing to obey the Nabob's orders in relation to the currency of Calcutta siccas, will oblige me to quarrel with them, therefore I have advised you of it.

No. 226.] From COLONEL CLIVE to ROY DULUB, October 9th, 1757.

I have received advice that there are some Frenchmen lurking about in many places in these provinces, these people want to join the Nabob's enemies and raise disturbances here. I would have you be upon your guard and write this to all Zemindars, Phousdars, &c. You must not touch the English and Dutch people near their bounds, but whoever you find strolling about the country lay hold of them. If you do this the French will not be able to hide themselves or make any disturbances in this country.

No. 227.] From ROY DULUB to COLONEL CLIVE. No. date. Rec^d. October 11th, 1757.

Your obliging letter saying there is no such ties of friendship between us that you will hide nothing from me; that the Nabobs, yours, and my interest are all one; that there are ten French ships arrived at Pondicherry; that Mons^r. Bussy may perhaps endeavour to enter into a Treaty with Shuja-ud-Doula and come this way; that the intelligence received from Patna makes it necessary to sooth the Nabob of Owd; that as there are great troubles at Delhi it would not be proper to send peshcash, &c., at present, and that the younger brother of Salabut Jung had risen against him for which reason Mons^r. Bussy was gone to Hyderabad. I have received with great pleasure and observe the contents. As there is now such ties of friendship between us I hope you will speak your mind freely as I will mine. It is certain that the Nabob's interest and ours is but one. When you have got good intelligence of the French ships, please to inform me that I may act as you desire. As Mons^r. Bussy is gone to Hyderabad, I believe they have not forces to send with their ships into these parts, but should they come this way, if it please God I hope they will never return. You and I must be one in this affair. You say there is ten French ships, it is no matter; if more should come we shall be a match for them. As you have wrote so I shall act both in regard to Shuja-ud-Doula and the Delhi affair.

No. 228.] From **Omar Beg Cawn** to **Colonel Clive**. Recd. October 11th, 1757.

I before wrote you how I was acting in regard to the Dutch upon their refusal to obey the Nabob's purwannah in relation to the currency of Calcutta siccas, and of their behaviour in not sending their inhabitants when I desired them. I have now surrounded Chinchura on all sides and have given positive orders, to stop all provisions from going to them. The Dutch Zemindar was coming out to know the reason of this proceeding, but my people would not permit him. I will not recall my forces from Chinchura till those people are delivered up. Pray send me a few sepoys; the Nabob will be much pleased. On your writing to me for forces I will send them and I hope you will do the same by me. I have just now got advice that the Dutch have wounded three of my people before their gates. I therefore desire you will send the sepoys very soon.

No. 229.] From **Colonel Clive** to the **Rajah** of Beerboom, October 12th, 1757.

I hear of some French marching through your country. If you have not already apprehended them I desire you will immediately send people after them. But few of the French have arms, and you may very easily take them. Drive away their coolies and prevent their getting provisions, and they will surrender themselves without fighting. I depend upon your shewing me your friendship by exerting yourself in this business. I shall always look on your interest as my own. You know the French are my avowed enemies. You cannot do me a greater pleasure than to take them prisoners for me.

No. 230.] From **Colonel Clive** to **Roy Dulub**, October 12th, 1757.

I have read with great pleasure your friendly letter. The news of the French ships is that they are all merchant ships. They landed some men and stores at Pondicherry and sailed away again to what place I have not yet heard.

I had information that some Frenchmen had gathered together at Syrampore and were to set out from thence to join Monsr. Sinfray in the Purneo country. I therefore sent a party of men and seized most of them; some escaped. I understand 20 or 30 men left Syrampore some days before and having joined Mons. Sinfray were seen at Organy in the Beerboom country: they consisted of about 60 men and very few of them had arms. It appears to me very extraordinary that these people should pass peaceably through the Nabob's dominions. Let me entreat you, by the friendship that subsists between us, that every means be used to destroy this party, and prevent stragglers hereafter passing in this manner. I have wrote to the Beerboom Rajah on this subject, and desire you will send strong orders to him and all other Zemindars about laying hold of the French wherever they find them.

I am persuaded you will always serve the Nabob like a wise Dewan and shew him a true zeal for his service. My friendship for you is sincere. If the Nabob has received any ill impressions of you through the wickedness of designing bad men, when I arrive at Muxadavad, I will use my utmost endeavours to appease all your differences.

No. 231.] From the **Nabob** to **Colonel Clive**. Recd. October 14th, 1757.

Your two obliging letters, one that Rajaram, you heard, was endeavoring to obtain my pardon; that Rajah Ramnarain wanted to come to Muxadavad; that as yet you was unacquainted with the force of the French ships; that you should be glad to see this country flourish; that Nizam Ally Cawn, Salabut Jung's brother, had risen against him; that Monsr. Bussy was gone to Hyderabad to the assistance of Salabut Jung; and that it was your opinion they would suffer. The other that there are troubles in the Purneo country; that the people of Patna were hatching some evil designs against me; that you had ordered Captain Grant to hold himself in readiness to assist me; that it was proper I should march to Patna; that Rajaram had wrote you he would obey me and pay me one lack of rupees if I would favor him; and that I should follow the advice of Roy Dulub and the Seats I have received with pleasure and observe the contents.

This Rajaram is a great rascal and he is both your enemy and mine. Before your letters arrived I had given the Phousdarship of Midnapore to Coja Mahmud Haddee Caun Bahadre, Buxie and General of my forces, and the 6th of this month he left Muxadavad on his way to Midnapore. When he arrives at Burdwaun he will write to you. Please to send with him 500 soldiers, a good commander, and everything that is proper for war. Let them go and take Midnapore and lay hold of Rajaram. If I was to recall Coja Haddee now I should affront him. If Rajaram will come with you and promise to obey me and give the King his revenues, and if I find he behaves well I may perhaps make it up with him.

Coddum Hossen Cawn likewise left this place the 6th instant to go and quell the rebellion in Purneo. You were very kind in ordering Captain Grant to be ready. I have told Mr. Scrofton that I want 500 soldiers. Please to write immediately to Captain Grant to join Coddum Hossein Cawn with that number.

Ramnarain is at Patna. He writes to me very often and declares there is no disturbance there; if there should be I will inform you. What you write about my marching that way, and that it will be for the good of my country, is I think very proper. I shall take the field after the rains are over, when I will advise you of it. The French and Salabut Jung's news I have observed. By the blessing of God your enemies will suffer. When you have certain intelligence from those parts write me of it. Our interest is but one.

Ramnarain has sent me some news, copy of which I enclose you. You will be there informed of the French and Shuja-ud-Doula's proceedings.

No. 232.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, October 7th, 1757.

I wrote you a few days ago to enquire after your health, and to communicate my sentiments to you about Rajaram, your taking the field in order to settle peace, and fully establish yourself Subah of these provinces, since which have not had the pleasure of receiving an answer.

From our first meeting together on the plains of Placis when we got the better of our enemies, my heart entertained the warmest friendship for you. From that instant I looked on your interest and mine as one. Our connections and inclinations have been since so strengthened by our several meetings at Muxadavad that nothing in this world can set them aside.

It gave me infinite pleasure to hear from Mr. Watts that you and Roy Dulub had sworn together a second time and your son likewise. When I heard these things my heart was glad with joy, and it reminded me of our meeting at Juggat Seat's when you, myself, Roy Dulub, and the Seats all agreed to stand by and support each other. I then concluded we had cemented a friendship that could never be broke, and that all the force of Indostan could never disturb the peace of this country, or injure Jaffer Ally Cawn Subah of these provinces. While your enemies see this friendship firm between us they will not dare to raise disturbances, and your power shall be as great as Mahabut Jung's. As I am accustomed to look on myself as your son, I shall think it my duty to give you my advice on all occasions having no interest separate from yours. If these things fall out contrary to your expectations the fault is not mine. Your health and happiness is the best news I can hear. What can I say more?

No. 233.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, October 19th, 1757.

I have received your Excellency's kind letter wherein you say so and so.

I have never given you any advice but what I thought for your advantage, and have always comply'd with everything you have desired of me.

I have therefore ordered 500 fighting men with ammunition, &c., to join to Coja Haddee whenever he writes for them. I fear Rajaram when he hears of this party coming he will run away into the woods, and that we shall not be able to take him. As you have not given me power to promise him pardon it would be wrong in me to write to him.

I have also sent orders for 500 fighting men or as many as you think proper to join Coddum Hossein Cawn. Of this Mr. Scrofton will inform you.

I am apprehensive Mr. Law will create some disturbances at court and try to occasion disputes between you and Shuja-ud-Doula. I wish all these matters were settled, and Mr. Law and his party obliged to quit the country.

Write me of your health; what can I say more. The ships I wrote you of are merchantmen; they staid but three days and then returned.

I am very glad to hear Ramnarain is faithful.

No. 234.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, October 18th. Rec^{d}. October 22nd, 1757.

For many days past I have not had the pleasure of hearing from you, which has given me much uneasiness. Please therefore to write to me immediately of your health.

No. 235.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, October 22nd, 1757.

Your letter informing me that you had not heard from me this long time, and that you had suffered much uneasiness, I have received with pleasure. A very few days ago I wrote you all the news of this place. Write me often of your health. I always remember you.

No. 236.] From RAJARAM to COLONEL CLIVE.

I do not know that I have committed a fault. I am ever ready to serve the Nabob, and I have never disobeyed him. He has confined my brother Narrain Sing and nephew Muttermaul, and they have been used ill. The Nabob is sending his forces to destroy me. You know what will happen therefore I write to you. If you will speak to the Nabob to release my brother and nephew and to favour me, so long as I live I will do as you desire me. If the Nabob will not do this, I must go where I can live. I have people that will stand by me. If you approve of this pray write to the Nabob that he may put confidence in me.

No. 237.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^{d}. October 24th, 1757.

Your agreeable letter gave me great pleasure; thank God I am also in health. My sentiment is the same as yours, that we have but one common interest, that your welfare is mine and mine yours, that while we are of one mind our enemies shall have no opportunity of hurting us. I hope by the blessing of God this will always be the case, and that our friendship shall daily encrease. I look on the Seats and Roy Dulub as my brothers and always consult them on my affairs, but I shall do nothing without your advice. I have before answered you on Rajaram's affair. Omar Beg Cawn Bahadre, I suppose, has acquainted you with the particulars of that affair. I now write you, Sir, that when Mr. Watts was here I discoursed with him on this subject, and I told him if you would take it on yourself that the fine should be forthcoming, or if he would give proper security for the payment of it, or for his appearance at Court, then I would release his brother and nephew, but Mr. Watts would not consent to any of these propositions, but now I have granted the sunnud and khilaut to one of my greatest officers which is publickly known, and he is actually on his march. Reflect then, Sir, what an affront I should put on him and how displeased he would be with me should I now displace him, and how light and variable my conduct will appear, and how it may affect my affairs hereafter, and he is one from whose conduct I have great expectations in future. But I have a great regard for your opinion and advice. While I was reading your letter my son unexpectedly appeared in my presence, and hearing the contents immediately took the conduct of the affair on himself, and Narrain Sing and his family into his charge, and has sent a trusty person with a letter of encouragement to Rajaram. This may be well for Rajaram for the present, and in future, if under the patronage of the Chuta Nabob he will come here with you to pay his obedience to me, implore my pardon, and give in an account to the Mutsuddies of all the posts he has had charge of for these ten or twelve years past, and convince me of his being obedient to my commands, if I am then satisfied with him he may be assured he shall have my favour as formerly.

Since writing the above I have received your other letter by Mr. Scrofton, and it gave me great pleasure to hear of your health; whenever you write me that you always acquaint me with what you think for my advantage, and that you are always ready to act as I desire, and that you have determined to send 500 sepoys to join Coja Haddee, and that you think should Rajaram hear these things he would conceal himself in the woods, and that I have not empowered you to pardon Rajaram; that therefore you can't write to him and that you will send 500 sepoys with Coddum Hossein Cawn to which purpose you have wrote to Mr. Scrofton, and that you are apprehensive Mr. Law will endeavour to raise disturbances between Shuja-ud-Doula and me; and that you think it would be well if Mr. Law were driven out of the country, and that the French ships after a day or two's stay returned. The above will acquaint you with the particulars of Rajaram's affair. Now that the Chuta Nabob has taken Narrainsing and Muttermaul in his own charge, what has he more to fear, and I now direct you to encourage him (or more properly inspire him with confidence) in every respect, and tell him to come and pay his obedience, and settle his affairs here, and I will then do as you desire. There are no Frenchmen in this country. Should I hear of any I will have them drove out. Mr. Law is out of my dominions. What power can he have to create disturbances.

No. 238.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^{d}. October 25th, 1757.

I have not heard from you this long time which has given me much uneasiness. I have received letters from Shuja-ud-Doula and Mahmud Cooly Cawn Bahadre. I send copies of them for your perusal, and Omar Beg Cawn will speak to you about them. Write an answer which you think proper and I will observe it.

No. 239.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, October 26th, 1757.

I have received your agreeable letter, I have always declared that I would never interfere in your affairs but by my advice. I have your welfare so much at heart that I shall always risque my own life and the lives of the English to serve and protect you. I think you act right in giving the command of the Midnapore country to Coja Haddee. When I interfer'd for Rajaram I did not mean that he should be left in all his possessions but pardoned, and taken into favor again if he desired it. I have ordered Captain Grant, a good officer, to join Coddum Hossein Cawn and assist him with the English forces, and another officer at this place is ready to assist Coja Haddee.

You ask me my advice about Shuja-ud-Doula's letter. It does not appear by that letter that the Marattoes or Ghazee-ud-din Cawn are your enemies, but rather the enemies of Shuja-ud-Dowla. I have heard there has always been great enmity between the Vizier and Shuja-ud-Doula's family, and perhaps Shuja-ud-Doula's apprehensions may have made him desirous of your friendship and assistance; your ent'ring into a public Treaty with him may displease the Court, and make them your enemies; if you write him sweet words and tell him that you are getting a great army ready, and that it has been your design for some months past to march to Patna it will be sufficient.

No. 240.] From COLONEL CLIVE to RAJARAM, October 26th, 1757.

I have received your letter which I could not answer till I heard from the Nabob; though in Siraja Dowla's time you was no friend to the English, all that is forgotten by me, and I have been so much your friend as to get your brother and nephew released and put into the hands of the Chuta Nabob.

I have but one advice to give you which is to come to me at Chandernagore immediately, and I will be answerable that no harm shall happen to you; if the Nabob will give me full security (which he has promised to do) that he will forgive you, you may then proceed to Muxadavad; if not, you shall have free leave to return from whence you came. If you regard your own safety you will follow this advice. Coja Haddee will be at Burdwaun in a few days with a large force, and I shall send a large body of Europeans, sepoys, and cannon to assist him. You can't fight against this force, but will be either taken or obliged to run away, either of which steps must be unhappy for you and your family. What can I say more.

No. 241.] From Coja Haddee Cawn Bahadre to Colonel Clive. October 25th. Rec^d^. October 27th, 1757.

When you was at Muxadavad the Nabob spoke to you about sending forces with me, and he told me when I arrived at Burdwaun I should write to you for them. This day I left Cutwah in my way to that place, where I shall arrive in two days. Please therefore to send the forces immediately with a good Commander that we may lose no time. I am always yours. Pray oblige me with frequent news of your health.

No. 242.] From Colonel Clive to Coja Haddee Cawn Bahadre, October 27th, 1757.

Your letter desiring the forces to be sent you I have received and have ordered some people with a good Commander to join you immediately. Write me of your health.

No. 243.] From the Chuta Nabob to Colonel Clive. Rec^{d}. October 28th, 1757.

Agreeable to your orders I have taken an oath and promise from the Nabob in Rajaram's affair. I have taken Narrain Sing, Muttermaul, and Monseram from their confinement to my own house, and by oaths and promises have encouraged them, and what I write to Rajaram I have sent copy of to your vacquel. I persuade myself you will write encouragement to him in the same manner, and that you will make the same promise and agreement to Rajaram, and that by your means he will immediately set out to pay his obeisance at Muxadavad. On his arrival we will write to favor him.

No. 244.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive. Rec^{d}. October 28th, 1757.

I am informed of the melancholly news of Major Kilpatrick's death. I know not how to express my grief on this occasion, but let me recommend it to you not to be too much affected at this unhappy event. Write me often of your health.

No. 245.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, October 28th, 1757.

Your friendly letter expressing your grief at the news of Major Kilpatrick's death I have received. It is the will of Providence; we had many soldiers die and many more are still sick. Tomorrow I shall send 600 fighting men to join Cojah Haddee, but I hope Rajaram will think better of the affair and be obedient to you; it will be saving a great deal of trouble and expence.

No. 246.] From Colonel Clive to the Chuta Nabob, October 28th, 1757.

Your obliging letter that you were endeavouring to make up matters with Rajaram, and that you had taken Muttermaul, Narrain Sing, and Monseram from their confinement to your own house, I have with pleasure received. Some days ago I wrote to Rajaram, and I hope this affair will be soon finished by your and my mediation.

No. 247.] From the Rajah of Beerloom to Colonel Clive. Rec^{d}. October 28th, 1757.

Your obliging letter wherein you write that you hear some French are marching through my country, that I should stop and send them to you, that our friendship shall be stronger, I have with pleasure received.

Before your letter arrived the French were going through some woods in my country. I know they were your enemies, therefore I ordered my people to surround them; the French being afraid, some said they were English and some Dutch. In the meantime I received your letter that if I could apprehend them I should send them to you, therefore I have sent them. Siraja Dowla has plundered my country so much that there is hardly anything left in it. By the favour of God if there had been one or two thousand Frenchmen, I would have confined them and sent them to you; what could so small a number as these do. If you will favor me I will do anything that you order me.

No. 248.] From the RAJAH of Beerboom to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^d. October 28th, 1757.

I am informed by my Munshie Kirparaun of the many favours you did me at Muxadavad, for which I am much obliged to you. I hope it will please God that you may have much riches. We have a great friendship for one another, therefore I beg you will favour me, and I shall be a great man. My country is yours, you may build houses or whatever you please in it. Ramnand Buddazy, a servant of Siraja Dowla's, has still a great deal of my money, and he will not give it me. I must therefore beg your assistance.

No. 249.] From COLONEL CLIVE to JUGGAT SEAT and SEROOPCHUND, October 28th, 1757.

I have received a letter from the English gentlemen at Dacca acquainting me of the behaviour of your gomastah in Monsr. Fleurin's business. I flattered myself that as you knew my esteem for that French gentleman, his business would have been settled without any delay or interruption. When my army was victorious near Muxadavad I shewed the utmost regard for you and your concerns.

No. 250.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the RAJAH of Beerboom, November 2nd, 1757.

Your two friendly letters I have received and observe the contents. You may depend on my using my interest for you at the Durbar, but I hear that you have not taken the French, only surrounded them. I desire you will not let them escape, for if you do I shall be very sorry.

No. 251.] From COJA HADDEE CAWN to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^d. November 2nd, 1757.

Your obliging letter that you were sending the forces, I have with pleasure received. I arrived at Burdwaun six days ago. As yet I have no orders from the Nabob to go further than this place. I know not how to express my thanks for your great favor. Pray oblige me with frequent news of your health.

No. 252.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, October 28th. Rec^d. November 2nd, 1757.

I have received your friendly letter and am much pleased to hear you, enjoy your health well. The advice which you have wrote me is, I think, very proper and will observe it. I send you copies of two letters, one from my servant Monseram, dated 29th September 1757, and the other from Ramnarain with news of the French and Shuja-ud-Doula. I have a great regard for you and hope you will always write me of your health.

Translate of a letter from RAMNARAIN to the NABOB.

The French have had an audience of Nabob Mahamud Cooly Cawn and desired him to represent the state of their affairs to Nabob Shuja-ud-Dowla, which he did, but Shuja-ud-Doula gave for an answer that they were not to be trusted and to send them away. On Mahamud Cooly Cawn's telling them this they went from Lucknow to Budgepoor, and from thence they wrote to one Tuckem

Cawn desiring him to speak to the Nabob that they had many fine things to give him, and that they were his riotts (inhabitants). Tuckem Cawn told Shuja-ud-Doula that it would be proper to see them and receive their presents. Shuja-ud-Doula said let them come into the presence. The 1st of October, six French gentlemen carried with them three dishes, the 1st contained fine cloth, the 2nd jewels, and the 3rd knives, pistols, and small spying glasses. To five of the gentlemen, Shuja-ud-Doula gave seerpaus of 4 piece of cloths, and to the other three pieces, and told them they might build a house wherever they pleased.

Translate of a letter from MONSERAM, the NABOB'S VACQUEEL at Delhi, to the NABOB.

Some say the Mahrattoe Chiefs are going one way, some another. Raggonautrou in great want of money, and for this reason they cannot march. When the revenues come in they will determine. The Vizier wants to march with these Chiefs to Lahore as he hears that Achmud Cawn Abdally is coming this way.

Ram Churn Pundit went on some business to Shuja-ud-Doula, and is returned with his answer to Raggonautrou. Shuja-ud-Doula has sent him likewise two pair of cossids and desires he will give ear what Mahamud Ally Cawn may say to him, and he will profit by it.

Raggonautrou, hearing that Ally Beg Cawn was arrived with two thousand horse, sent Gangadhur Pundit, Mulhar Rao's Dwan and Rajahawtajee pundit his own servant to see him. Ally Beg Cawn gave them some cloth and jewels; then they all went to Raggonautrou's house when Ally Beg Cawn gave him a letter from Shuja-ud-Doula, after they had set three or four hours Ally Beg Cawn received a sirpaus and took his leave and went to wait on Mulhar Rao.

I am here as your servant and have learned the above. Shuja-ud-Doula wants the Mahrattoe Chiefs to go with him into your country. I have twice or thrice told Raggonautrou that you have many forces, a great artillery, and many thousands of Calcutta people in your pay; that you are a great and good man and are his friend. You should assemble your forces and shew yourself the friend of Ballahrow.

Ramnarian, Naib of Patna, Rajah Bulwansing, Zemindar of Banaras, and Sunder Shaw, Zemindar of Tuckarry, sent some letters to Raggonautrou who sent an answer very soon. The cossids you sent to Raggonautrou and Mulhar Kas are still here, but informed they will have an answer in few days.

Achmud Cawn Abdally has sent a Chubdar with two letters, one to the King and the other to the Vizier. The purport of the King's is that the Treaty between you and me is that I shall possess Seerkund, and that neither of our forces shall pass beyond this place. To the Vizier that he would have him get the revenues from Deckan Purvel and the Ghauts which he promised him and send it immediately; that he hears the Vizier is assembling the Mahrattas to go and make war with him; and that if he does come, by the blessing of God he will come and beat them. The Vizier went to Raggonautrou and Mulhar Rao and informed them of the contents of these letters, and carried the Chubdar with him. In few days the Chubdar received his answers, and the Maharatta Chiefs sent people with him to prevent his being stopt on the road. The Vizier consulted Mulhar Rao about his answer to Achmud Cawn Abdally.

No. 253.] From RAJARAM SING to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^{d}. November 3rd, 1757.

Your obliging letter that you would have me to come to Chandernagore I have received with great pleasure; before I received your letter I was determined to wait on you, but hearing that Cojah Haddee was near Burdwaun I was prevented from setting out, imagining that I should meet with Coja Haddee, and that we should fight, which would have disobliged you. If you will on the receipt of this send me five soldiers and a dustuck for me to pass free, I will go to you immediately. You have done me great favor in getting my brother Narrain Sing and Mutteramul released. I am your slave and always ready to do whatever the Nabob and you may think proper to order me.

No. 254.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, November 3rd, ,1757.

I have the pleasure to inform that I have received a letter from Rajaram Sing: he writes me that he will come to me immediately. My forces were to have set out tomorrow but I have stopt them in hopes this affair will be settled, and that his country shall be under your subjection.

No. 255.] From COLONEL CLIVE to COJA HADDEE CAWN, November 3rd, 1757.

I have just now received a letter from Rajaram: he writes me that he will come to me immediately. I have therefore stopt the forces I was sending to you hoping this affair will soon be settled.

No. 256.] From COLONEL CLIVE to RAJARAM, November 3rd, 1757.

I have received your letter and observe the contents. I have ordered five soldiers and a dustuck to be sent you by a boat, as it will be better for you to come by water. Coja Haddee's orders from the Nabob at present are to go no further than Burdwaun. The forces I was sending to join him I have stopt. I shall be glad to see you soon here.

No. 257.] From COLONEL CLIVE to AMIR BEG CAWN, November 4th, 1757.

I desire you will give orders to all Mutsuddies under you to send what number of bildars they can get to work at the fortification of Calcutta; they will be paid their wages there.

No. 258.] From the RAJAH of Beerboom to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^{d}. November 4th, 1757.

I before wrote you an answer to the letter you wrote me desiring I would lay hold of the French and send them to you. I then told you I had surrounded them and was about to send them to you. There were twelve coss on their way, when Mons. Sinfray arrived amongst them, and told them they must not go for you would destroy them. They then told me they would not go but I might send their heads if I would. You wrote to me to send the French to you. I was afraid I should have displeased you if I had destroyed in attempting to take them after that, or I should certainly have done it. If you will order me to send their heads I will.

No. 259.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the RAJAH of Beerboom, November 4th, 1757.

Your letter wherein you write that the French said they would not come, but that you might send their heads if you would, that you was afraid I should be displeased if you destroyed them in attempting to take them, that if I ordered it you would send their heads, and that you had surrounded I have received. If these people will come freely it is very well, if not, you must take them by force.

No. 260.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^{d}. November 4th, 1757.

Tomorow I shall take the field in order to march to Patna. I before advised you of my intentions and now do it again. By the favor of God I shall arrive in the camp at the time I mention. I desire you will write me what time you propose and let me hear often of your health.

No. 261.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, November 4th, 1757.

I have received your friendly letter and observe the contents. This is the first time you wrote me that I should march up to join you; however I will immediately give orders to have my army collected together. I must desire you will advance according to Treaty one lack of rupees, as that will be about the expence of one month for the whole army. When I hear you have done this I shall set out to join you. I expect Rajaram in five or six days and shall carry him with me to Muxadavad to pay his obedience to you.

No. 262.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, November 6th, 1757.

I am sorry to find your Excellency does not think proper to communicate to me the situation of your affairs in so full and friendly a manner as my attachment to your service merits. I am informed from other hands of what Ramnarain is about, and how much discontent reigns throughout your dominions. This has determined me to hasten my march to join you. Tomorow I pitch my tent and in six days shall begin my march. Rajaram came to me this morning and I shall carry him with me to Muxadavad that he may throw himself at your Excellency's feet. My thoughts and endeavours shall ever be employed to promote the tranquility of your reign.

What can I say more.

No. 263.] From JUGGAT SEAT and SEROOP CHUND. Rec^d. November 6th, 1757.

Your obliging letter that you had received a letter from the English gentlemen at Dacca acquainting you of the behaviour of my gomastah in Monsr. Fleurin's business, I have received. I am much pleased to hear you enjoy your health well. My gomastah is a good man and would not behave ill; they have not been able to settle their business, for one would take a thing at the other's price, and the other would not give it at the price he wanted it. I read a letter to Mr. Manningham that I received from my gomastah on this business, the contents of which Mr. Manningham tells you. When you have heard them I desire you will write what you would have done, and I will observe it. If you are pleased with me I shall prize that above all things hatever you order me to do I will obey. I hope you will always write me of your health.

No. 264.] From COLONEL CLIVE to ROY DULLUB, November 6th, 1757.

I am much concerned to hear of the troubles at Patna. I shall pitch my tent tomorrow, and in six days propose to begin my march. I am much obliged to you for the horse you was so kind as to send me. To hear of your health will give me great pleasure.

No. 265.] From AMIR BEG CAWN to COLONEL CLIVE, November 6th, 1757.

I have received your obliging letter; to hear of your health gives me great pleasure. I have given orders to my people to look out for bildars, and as many as can be got shall be sent to you.

The Nabob has issued a purwannah for the sending my Mutsuddies, Zemindars, and Canangoes to Calcutta, which I have done. I have wrote to Mr. Drake that as Rajah Teloop Chund and Rajah Kissenchund are two great Zemindars, to desire he will call their Mutsuddies, and whatever papers they may have that will be of use to him he is to take them. My Mutsuddies will obey you in everything.

Always write me of your health.

No. 266.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, November 4th. Rec^d. November 7th, 1757.

I have received your letter and am very glad to hear you enjoy your health well. I am much obliged to you for sending forces to the assistance of Coja Haddee Cawn. I shall this day go to camp and only wait for your arrival to proceed. Mr. Scrafton has spoke to me about the expences of your army; when you come we will settle it. Our interest is but one. I shall never do anything without first asking your advice. When you arrive whatever you settle I will give.

No. 267.] From COJA HADDEE CAWN to COLONEL CLIVE, November 7th. Rec^d. November 8th, 1757.

Your obliging letter that you had received a letter from Rajaram, and that for this reason you had stopt the forces, I have received with great pleasure. When I heard this I grew strong. If you finish this affair it will be good for the Nabob and I shall be much pleased. I desire you will always favor me with the news of your health.

No. 268.] From Colonel Clive to Coja Haddee Cawn, November 9th, 1757.

I have received your friendly letter. Rajaram has been arrived here these four days, and I propose carrying him with me to pay his obedience to the Nabob. I have pitched my tent, and on Monday next shall begin my march towards Muxadavad. I shall be very glad to hear that you are in possession of the Midnapore country. Write me often of your health.

No. 269.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive, November 6th. Recd. November 9th, 1757.

By the favor of God I shall this day go to my garden at Barranagur, and in two days shall arrive at Bumnea. I only wait for you to proceed. I before wrote you the time that I should march out. I hope you will march out at a lucky time. I shall be very glad to have the pleasure of seeing you soon. When you arrive as you settle the expences of the army I will give it.

Wrote in his own hand.—You are the light of my eye. I only wait for you, and the sooner you come the better.

No. 270.] From Colonel Clive to Ramnaráin, Naib of Patna, November 9th, 1757.

I some time since received a letter from you. It gave me great pleasure to hear of your health, and your assurances of friendship are very agreeable to me. I am now on my march to Muxadavad. Be assured I shall look on your welfare as my own, and I will interest myself in your affairs and do all the service in my power. I have heard the news of Patna. There was no necessity to call in foreign enemies. Write to all your friends to prevent their march. It becomes me to do you all the service I can, and you to prevent as much as in your power the entrance of the enemies of the Subaship.

No. 271.] From Roy Dulub to Colonel Clive, November 8th. Recd. November 13th, 1757.

By the favor of God I enjoy my health well and am ever praying to God for your welfare. Pray favor me with accounts of your health. You must have been informed from others how much I have the Company's interest at heart. There is no occasion for my writing of it. You will hear the news of this place from Mr. Manningham.

No. 272.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive, November 10th. Recd. November 13th, 1757.

Your obliging letter wherein you write that I do not send you the news of the Subaship, and that I had not acted in a friendly manner, that you had pitched your tent and that you should march in six days, that Rajaram was arrived with you, and that you should bring him with you to pay his obedience to me, I have with pleasure received. I before wrote you all the news that was to be depended on. How can I think of writing you anything when I am not certain of it. What low people say is not to be depended on. It gives me great pleasure to hear that you have pitched your tent. I am thereby grown stronger, and am informed of the great friendship you have for me. By the favor of God I hope you will enjoy long life. I have advanced the Commanders of my army their pay, and yet they will not come out of the city. I therefore propose marching from Bumnea to Duanea Serra, and then they will certainly come out. I shall wait on Duanea Serra till you arrive. I am glad to hear that Rajaram is arrived and that you will bring him with you.

In another paper—You wrote me that you should send 500 soldiers to Coja Haddee on his arrival at Burdwaun; as Rajaram is arrived with you there is no occasion for them.

No. 273.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive. No date. Recd. November 13th, 1757.

Your letter wherein you write that I must advance according to the Treaty one lack of rupees for the expences of your army, and that when you had heard I had ordered it you would begin your march I have received and observe the contents. You never spoke to me before on this subject, and your writing that when you heard I had advanced the money you would march is very far from being wrote in a friendly manner. I have ordered 50,000 rupees to be paid to Zubdalost Soojah. Mr. Scrofton will inform you of it when you arrive; whatever is settled shall be given. I arrived some days ago at Goobra and only wait for you. I therefore desire you will make great haste and come to me when we will settle the daily and other expences of your army. We must consult together before we proceed. I have paid 10,000 rupees to Mr. Scrafton for the expenses of the army to Purneo.

No. 274.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, November 14th, 1757.

I have received your obliging letter and observe the contents. I am very sorry you should accuse me of not writing in a friendly manner, because I wrote to you about money affairs. It is a duty I owe to my superiors, and I should be called to an account for not doing it. Believe me if ever you come to action you will find the English a people who will stand by you to the last, and I promise you that you shan't be put to a rupee more expences than what is necessary. To hear of your health will alway give me great pleasure.

No. 275.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive. Rec^{d}. November 15th, 1757.

By the blessing of God I enjoy my health well and am always praying for yours. Four days ago I arrived safe at Duanea Serra, and I only wait for you. If you do not come I will not stir a foot further. I have ordered 50,000 rupees to be paid Mr. Scrofton for the expences of your army. I enclose you letter from Mr. Scrofton; he will inform you of it likewise.

No. 276.] From Mr. Luke Scrofton to Colonel Clive. No date. Rec^{d}. November 15th, 1757.

The Nabob has ordered Rajah Dullub Ram Bahadre to pay 50,000 rupees for the expences of your army. The Rajah has desired me to take them. I chose rather to acquaint you first that I may have your order for receiving them. You will please to inform me immediately whether I am to receive them or not.

No. 277.] From the Chuta Nabob to Colonel Clive. No date. Rec^{d}. November 15th, 1757.

I am informed that Rajaram Sing is arrived with you which gives me great pleasure. Our army reached Gobra six days ago, and the tents are sent forward. I write you this to desire you will make great haste here, and bring Rajaram Sing with you. It is very good both for you and me that Rajaram Sing is come. We will advise about his affair and endeavour to settle it.

No. 278.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, November 18th, 1757.

Your friendly letter that you was marched from Muxadavad, and that you was arrived at Duanea Serra, and that you only waited for me, I have received early this morning. I left my gardens and am at this time near Changder and by the blessing of God I hope to be with you soon. A ship lately arrived from Bussorah brings news over-land that the Company had heard of the loss of Calcutta and were sending out 3,000 soldiers with some men-of-war which are expected here in a month or two.

No. 279.] From Colonel Clive to Chuta Nabob, November 18th, 1757.

Your friendly letter that you was pleased at the news of Rajaram's arrival with me and that he was coming with me, and that when we arrived we must consult about his affair, I have with much pleasure received. My army have been marched here two days, and tomorrow I shall go and carry Rajaram with me, and hope soon to see you.

No. 280.] From the RAJAH of Beerboom to COLONEL CLIVE, November 9th. Rec^{d}. November 18th, 1757.

Your friendly letter wherein you write that if the French would not come freely I should take them by force, and that I might depend upon your interest at the Durbar, I have received with great pleasure. Before your letter came I had confin'd the French and was sending them to you, and they must be arrived by this time. Our friendship makes me strong, and I am certain you will favour me. We are one and our friendship for one another will daily increase. Please to write me often of your health.

No. 281.] From the CHUTA NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^{d} November 20th, 1757.

By the favour of God I enjoy my health well and am always for yours. It is many days since I have had the pleasure of hearing from you which has given me much uneasiness. I now send Muttermaul, Rajaram Sing's nephew, to you and desire you will send Rajaram with him two days before you come, that I may settle some business I have with him, and when you arrive we will consult together and finish his affair. If Rajaram is afraid to come without you I desire you will send two of your Company's servants with him. You are always in my thoughts.

No. 282.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the CHUTA NABOB, November 20th, 1757.

Your friendly letter that you would enjoy'd your health well, that you was always praying for mine, and that you had sent Rajaram Sing's nephew Muttermaul to me, and desiring that I would send Rajaram two days before me, I have received and observe the contents. By the blessing of God I am in perfect health and am always praying for yours. When I wrote Rajaram to come to me I told him he had nothing to fear for that I would be his security, and promised him I would carry him with me to pay his obedience to the Nabob; for this reason therefore I cannot send him to you. I am now near Nuddea and Rajaram is with me. By the blessing of God in three or four days I hope to arrive at Muxadavad and to have the pleasure of seeing you.

No. 283.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^{d}. November 23rd, 1757.

Your obliging letter in answer to mine I have received and observe the contents. I rely on your friendship in very great affairs. Till this, which is the 5th of the Moon (the 16th), I have been in expectation of your coming, and am today marching to Commars. I am impatient for your arrival. The sooner you come, and I have the pleasure of seeing you, the greater satisfaction it will afford me.

No. 284.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^{d}. November 25th, 1757.

Your obliging letter informing me of your departure from Calcutta the 4th of the Moon, and that you was arrived as far as Changder gave me great pleasure. Coddum Hossein Cawn Bahadre has delayed his time at Rajahmaul, and is not yet crost the river, and the purcknow affairs daily becomes more important; it's improper I should lose any time in arriving at Rajahmaul, where I shall halt sometime in expectation of your arrival. Now that you are marched you should lose no time by halting either at the city or any other place, but haste to join me with your army, and do me the pleasure of visiting me as soon as possible.

No. 285.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, November 26th, 1757.

I have received your two obliging letters informing me your being on your march to Rajahmaul, and that Coddum Hossein Cawn has not crost the river. After your former letter to me acquainting me you should wait for me at Dunnea Serray, it gave me great concern to hear you should have continued your march, but I suppose the necessity of affairs have obliged you to it. I am now arrived at Muxadavad, and the day after tomorrow shall march with an army (by the blessing of God hitherto unconquerable) devoted to your service against all the enemies of your Subaship. I am impatient for the happiness of embracing you.

No. 286.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^{d}. November 30th, 1757.

Your obliging letter informing me of your arrival at Muxadavad, and that you should march in two days, I have with great pleasure received. By the favour of God I hope soon to have the pleasure of seeing you. I was obliged to continue my march for the forces that I sent before to Purneo would not cross the river, and that affair would be still longer delayed. I am now arrived at Akbur Nuggur and the forces are crost.

No. 287.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, November 30th, 1757.

Your friendly letter that you were arrived at Akbur Nuggur, and that the forces are crost, I have with pleasure received. I am arrived at Aurungabad and by the blessing of God hope to be at Rajamaul in four days.

No. 288.] From COLONEL CLIVE to MORALY DHUR, November 30th, 1757.

You will have heard how severe the Nabob behaved to Narrain Sing and Muttermaul confining them and putting them in irons. I released them. I also protected Rajaram Sing and called him from Midnapore. I have led him by the hand to the young Nabob from whom he has received an elephant, dress, and all manner of encouragement, and has returned him all his goods, and I am carrying him to the Nabob. Be confident of me. I have heard your good character and will represent it to the Nabob, with whom be assured of my interest. The particulars you will learn from Rajaram's letters. Its proper you should give one constant intelligence from Patna and let me hear often of your health.

No. 289.] From RAMNARAIN to COLONEL CLIVE, November 25th. Rec^{d}. December 3rd, 1757.

I wrote before an answer to your obliging letter, which you must have received and read before this, since which Major Coote has wrote me a letter the contents of which have much affected me. I am your friend. I have ever been the Nabob's slave. By the favour of God to this day the Nabob's favour for me is the same as it ever was, and I have never deviated in my duty to him. If I had been of another opinion how could I have taken an oath to the Nabob's brother in the presence of Major Cootes. I know you have favour for me. I still stand firm to my oath. I desire you will do me the pleasure to inform me in the answer to this letter, who it is that can give credit to every trifling thing that is wrote from here. You will be informed of the news of this place by Mr. Pearkes. What can I say more.

No. 290.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^{d}. December 3rd, 1757.

Your obliging letter that you was safely arrived at Aurungabad, and that in four days you should be at Rajamaul, I have with pleasure received. It gives me great pleasure that the day draws near when I am to have the happiness of seeing you.

No. 291.] From RAJAH DULLUB RAM BAHADRE to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^{d}. December 5th, 1757.

I am at present much out of order. The Doctor that in your presence visited me has given me some physick which by the favor of God I hope will make me well in eight or ten days. I hope to be able to wait on the Nabob and you. I am ever desirous of hearing of your health.

No. 292.] From Colonel Clive to Rajah Dullub Ram Bahadre, December 5th, 1757.

Your obliging letter I have received and observe the contents. By the favour of God I hope you will have a speedy recovery. The sooner you come here it will be the better for you. I desire you will pay the ready money and give the draughts on the provinces immediately.

No. 293.] From Ramnarain to Colonel Clive, November 20th. Rec^d. December 5th, 1757.

Your greatly obliging letter wherein you write that you have my welfare at heart, that you are coming soon to Muxadavad, and that I may rely on your favor, that you hear all the news of Patna, that if his enemies come it will not be good, and that I should give orders to all my people to keep them out, that it is absolutely necessary for you to preserve the peace of this country, and that I should take care that it suffers no harm I have with pleasure received. Your name is great above all others. I look on you as my friend, am desirous of your favor, and I am sure you will give it to me. I am the Nabob's servant and hope you will speak to him in my favor. I will take the utmost care of his Subaship, and so long as I live every one shall be obedient. The people here do not write the truth either to you or the Nabob. I before had given orders to all my people to keep a good look-out. I shall not trust our enemies. I am the Nabob's slave and your servant. I desire you will not forget me.

No. 294.] Colonel Clive to the Nabob, December 9th, 1757.

I have received intelligence which is to be depended on that the French, who left Dacca some months ago, are now marching from a place called Cotcke Behar in the Phousdarship Dinagepore to the assistance of the rebels in Purneo. I desire you will send orders immediately to the Rajah of that country to have them seized.

No. 295.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive, December 10th, 1757.

Your obliging letter, wherein you write that you heard for certain that the French who left Dacca some months ago were marching from Cotche Behar to the assistance of the pirmans, and that I should send my orders to the Rajah to seize them, I have received with pleasure. I have wrote very strongly both to Rajah Ramnant and Cassim Ally Cawn, and I dare say they will take them.

No. 296.] From Colonel Clive to Rajah Dullub Ram Bahadre, December 13th, 1757.

I have very impatiently waited your arrival and hope I shall very soon have the pleasure of seeing you as Doctor Forth gives me the good news of your recovery. The Nabob has promised to make over the revenues of certain countries for the payment of the remainder of the money due to us by Treaty, and the purwannahs are to be drawn out as soon as you arrive. Your absence puts a stop to all business. I therefore again desire you will make haste and join the army. I have many matters of consequence to talk to you about. I set a great value on your friendship and desire you will firmly rely on mine. What can I say more.

No. 297.] From Rajah Dullub Ram Bahadre to Colonel Clive. Rec^d. December 10th, 1757.

I before wrote a letter to enquire after your health which you must have received and read before this. This day the 3rd of the month Nuncomar took his leave of me, and tomorrow he will set out. By the favor of God he will soon arrive with you, and inform you of some affairs. I am always desirous of hearing of your health.

No. 298.] Colonel Clive to Rajah Dullub Ram Bahadre, December 10th, 1757.

Your friendly letter that Nuncomar was set out, and that he would inform me of some affairs, I have received with pleasure. Nuncomar is arrived, and has informed me of everything which is well. I have talked to him and from his letter you will be informed. The sooner you come it will be the better. By the favor of God everything shall be settled.

No. 299.] From **Rajah Dullub Ram Bahadre** to **Colonel Clive**. No date. Recd. December 10th, 1757.

Your obliging letter, wherein you write that I should make haste and join the army, and that you desire I would settle the time for paying the money, I have with pleasure received. This evening the 7th of the month I propose setting out to another of my houses, and the next day shall march to join the army. I have sent the bill of exchange for the Mahratta chout, and in a day or two the bill of exchange for Delhi shall be sent. Your money and the draughts of the provinces I will settle very soon.

No. 300.] From **Colonel Clive** to **Rajah Ramnaut**, Rajah of Dinagepore, December 11th, 1757.

The Nabob writes you by this conveyance that he hears Mons. Courtin and some other Frenchmen (who left Dacca some months ago) are marching from Cotche Behar (a place under your Phousdarship) to Purnea. I desire you will seize and send them to me, which will give me great pleasure. If you have occasion for any assistance write me and I will send it.

N.B.—The same to Cossim Ally Cawn, Phousdar of Rungpore.

No. 301.] From **Colonel Clive** to **Rajah Dullub Ram Bahadre**, December 11th, 1757.

I have received a message from the Nabob desiring I would march and proceed in the van of his army, and that he would follow a day after. As our affairs are not yet settled I have deferred marching till your arrival. I am therefore to desire you will come here with the utmost expedition.

No. 302.] From **Colonel Clive** to **Moraly Dhur**, December 11th, 1757.

Your brother Rajaram Sing is with me. Rely on me with confidence; you will be further informed from Rajaram Sing's letter.

No. 303.] From **Colonel Clive** to **Ramnarain**, December 11th, 1757.

I came into this country to see justice done; know that I am your friend. Rely on me with confidence; you will be further informed from Rajaram Sing's letter.

No. 304.] From **Rajah Dullub Ram Bahadre** to **Colonel Clive**, December 12th. Recd. December 15th, 1757.

Your two obliging letters, wherein you write that the Nabob had sent you to march and proceed in the van of his army, that you are very impatient for my arrival, and that I should make as much haste as possible that your affair might be finished, I have with great pleasure received and observe the contents. I before had a great desire of seeing you and the Nabob, and was preparing for the same, but on the arrival of your second letter I made much more haste, have pitched my tent and propose setting out in three days. By the blessing of God I hope soon to have the pleasure of seeing you and pay my respects to the Nabob.

No. 305.] From **Colonel Clive** to **Rajah Dullub Ram Bahadre**, December 16th, 1757.

I enclose you a letter from the Nabob, which is an order on you for 50,000 rupees. I desire you will give orders that it may be paid immediately to Mr. Scrafton at Muxadavad.

No. 306.] From the **Rajah** of Beerboom to **Colonel Clive**. Recd. December 17th, 1757.

Your obliging letter, wherein you write me that Kirparam and Chunilla had taken the name of the English to get money from me for Durbar expenses, that there is not one with you who has taken the least trifle, that you have finished my affairs, and that I should take the money back again, I have received with great pleasure.

I am persuaded that for serving me the English would never take anything; as yet Kirparam and Chunilla, have not made use of the English name for that purpose. If they do I will take care of them. I hope you will always favor me.

No. 307.] From the Rajah of Beerboom to Colonel Clive. No date. Rec^{d}. December 17th, 1757.

Comgar Cawn, my uncle, and Sunder Sing have been quarrelling. Comgar Cawn is come to a place within three coss of my country and Sunder Sing is following him.

The inhabitants of Sunner haut are running away on account of this quarrel. For the good of my country and honour of my family, I want to go to the confines of my country. I have therefore advised you of it.

No. 308.] From Rajah Dullub Ram to Colonel Clive, December 23rd, 1757.

This day at 10 o'clock I arrived at Dogutchy. Tomorrow being Friday is not a proper day to wait on the Nabob. By the blessing of God on Saturday, about 9 o'clock, I hope to have the pleasure of seeing the Nabob and you. Nuncomar has been to wait on me, and told me what regard you have for me, by which I am grown strong. Nuncomar will inform you of what I have told him. Whatever you think is proper to be done pray inform me and I will act accordingly.

No. 309.] Colonel Clive to Rajah Dullub Ram, December 23rd, 1757.

I have received your friendly letter; you write me that Nuncomar will inform me of what you have told him; he has informed me and you will learn from him what I have said to him. Rest assured the Nabob's intentions towards you are favorable.

No. 310.] From Ramnarain to Colonel Clive. Rec^{d}. December 23rd, 1757.

In your former letter you wrote me that you were setting out to join the Nabob's camp, which gave me both confidence and pleasure. I imagine you must by this time have seen the Nabob, but your not acquainting me of it has given me much uneasiness. What I wrote you was on account of the friendship that subsists between us. I desire you will do me the pleasure of writing me.

No. 311.] From Moraly Dhur to Colonel Clive. No date. Rec^{d}. December 23rd 1757.

Your greatly obliging letter, wherein you write me that you had sent for my brother Rajaram Sing, that you led him to the Chuta Nabob who gave him an elephant, sirpaw, and jewels, and returned him all his goods, &c., that you was carrying him to the Nabob, and that it's proper I should acquaint you with the news of Patna, I have received with great pleasure and observe the contents. I always write to the Nabob the news of Delhi, Shuja-ud-Doula's camp, and every other place as often I hear any, and you must certainly be informed of it by him. I hear that Shuja-ud-Doula is marched from Lucknow and encamped at Termakan; Najib Cawn, the Patan, having called him to his assistance against the Mahrattas. It is yet uncertain which way Suraj Mull, the head of the Jauts, will march. The Mahrattas sent a few forces after Najib Cawn and he went off. Many more Mahrattas are gone against the Patans. We shall see what will be the end of it. The King and Vizier are at Delhi. Meer Shurfuddy Ally Cawn, Rajah Sokut Sing, and Lolla Geramul are arrived here on the part of the Nabob to give confidence to Ramnarrain. Lolla Geramul is returned, and you will hear the whole affair from him. Everyone here is devoted to you.

No. 312.] From COLONEL CLIVE to RAMNARAIN, December 25th, 1757.

I am much pleased to hear that you are obedient and good servant to the Nabob; he expressed great desire to see you. I will be security for your coming to him. Geramul is going to you. Rely on the Nabob and come soon to pay your respects to him. By the blessing of God the Nabob's favor for you will daily encrease.

No. 313.] From RAJAH RAMNAUT, RAJAH of Dinagepore to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Recd. December 29th, 1757.

Your obliging letter I have received with great pleasure. I have a long time desired to have the happiness of writing you. The Nabob's purwannah and your letter order me to seize on Mons. Courtin, &c., Frenchmen who left Dacca some months ago, and are now marching from Coutche Behar to Purnea, and that I should send them to you, and that if I want any assistance you will send it on my writing; as yet I have not heard of any Frenchmen marching through my country to Purnea. I am now informed by the Nabob's purwannah and your letter, and shall take care to look out after them. What strength have they to march through my country to Purneo. I shall act according to what the Nabob and you have wrote. Whatever I want in this affair I will write to you for it. I hope you will have long life and much riches, a great house, and a large Musnud to sit on.

N.B.—The same from Cossem Ally Cawn.

No. 314.] From COLONEL CLIVE to RAMNARRAIN, January 1st, 1758.

I am now fully convinced of the Nabob's good intentions towards you, and the friendship that he has for you, and that he will continue you in your government. It was on this account that I wrote by Germaul. We shall march tomorrow and I shall be in the van of the army; when you come I myself will go with you to the Nabob and be security for you.

No. 315.] From ROY DULUB to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Recd. January 3rd, 1758.

From Nuncomar you will receive the twelve purwannahs for the tunkaws* on the lands, signed, sealed, and everything done that is necessary. I desire you will examine them well, and send me a receipt that I may enter it in my book.

No. 316.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, January 3rd, 1758.

By the favor of God I this day arrived at Succregully with all my forces and only wait for your Excellency.

No. 317.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Recd. January 5th, 1758.

Your letter informing me that you was arrived at Succregully, and that you waited for me, I have with pleasure received. Our brother Dullub Ram marches tomorrow. I shall march very soon, and desire you will wait for me at Shahahad.

No. 318.] From COLONEL CLIVE to ROY DULUB, January 6th, 1758.

Your friendly letter, wherein you write me that you have sent by Nuncomar the twelve purwannahs on the lands. I have with pleasure received. I have examined the purwannahs and now send the receipt. By this I am convinced of your friendship and hope it will encrease daily.

We have now been near two months in the field, and I have received only one lack of rupees for the expences of my army, altho' the Nabob has ordered me 50,000 more, which I desire you will comply with.

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* Tankhwáh, pronounced Tankhá, corruptly, Tanka, Tunka, Tankwah, Tuncaw, Tl. &c. Tankha Mar.

An order or draft for money, a bill of exchange, an assignment by the ruling authority upon the revenue of any particular locality in payment of wages, pay, gratuity, or pension, or in repayment of advances, or any specified head of charge: in the Dakhin the standard rent-roll of a village or district; also the oldest revenue assessment, or that fixed by the *Ádil-Sháhi* princes of Bijapur, and resettled by *Toral Mal* in the reign of Akbar, for the same tract of country; also under the Moghul Government, an assignment of revenue to maintain vessels of war at Surat to convoy pilgrims going to Mekka by Sea.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

I desire you will according to your promise send two orders on your brother Coonjubeharry, one for 6,21,800 rupees, the other for three lacks, and another on your brother Rausbeharry for 4,37,000.

No. 319.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, January 7th, 1758.

According to your writing I should have halted at Shahabad, but Coongar Cawn and Bahadre Ally Cawn were encamped there, and I was obliged to proceed on. As I can get no good water where I am now shall march tomorrow to Colgong, and there wait for your Excellency.

No. 320.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, January 8th, 1758.

Enclosed I have the honor to send you a letter with some papers from Mr. Pearkes, Chief of the English factory at Patna, by which you will observe the insult he has received from Coja Ashrooph. It is not only an affront of the highest nature to the English, but to the King whose phirmaund they have for a free trade, and your Excellency under whose Government they live. I therefore don't at all doubt but you will see due justice done on the offender. The English were never used in such a manner since they have been in Bengal. Coja Ashrooph hired people on purpose that day to destroy the Company's people.

No. 321.] From ROY DULUB to COLONEL CLIVE. No dat Rec^{d}. January 8th, 1758.

I enclose you the Nabob's letter to me by which you will observe I am ordered to halt at Shahabad. I hear you intend marching to Colgong at which I am much surprized. I send the purwannah to you that you may consult thereon and write me what you intend to do. I am arrived at Telliagury; some of the cannon are disabled and cannot proceed. It is not proper then that either you or I should march on. Cosseram who carries this will inform you of further particulars.

No. 322.] From COLONEL CLIVE to ROY DULUB, January 8th, 1758.

I have received your letter and observe the contents. I should have halted at Shahabad but Comgar Cawn and Bahadre Ally Cawn were there and I was obliged to proceed on. I am now marching to Colgong, where my boats can come to me. If I was to encamp near you our people would be for ever quarrelling.

No. 323.] From RAMNARAIN to COLONEL CLIVE, January 2nd. Rec^{d}. January 9th, 1758.

Your obliging letter, wherein you write that you came here with an army for the good of the country, that I should rely on you, and that I should learn further particulars from Rajaram's letter, I have with pleasure received in a lucky moment. Your name is great. I am ever ready to serve you. By the favor of God I hope you will enjoy long life. You wrote me before that you would speak to the Nabob in my favor, and I do not doubt but you have done it. I am ever yours.

No. 324.] From MORALY DHUR to COLONEL CLIVE, January 2nd. Rec^{d}. January 9th, 1758.

Your greatly obliging letter, wherein you write me that I should learn further particulars from Rajaram's letter, I have with pleasure received. Rajaram always writes me of the great favor you shew him, Ramnarain, and me. By the favor of God I hope you will enjoy long life, and that I may be a support to it. Ramnarain writes you by this cossid and is very desirous of your favor.

No. 325.] From the RAJAH of Beerboom to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^{d}. January 11th, 1758.

By your favor I was restored to my Zemindary. It is many days since I have had the pleasure of hearing from you, which has given me much concern.

Ramnaud Buddazy, the man that Siraja Doula sent over me, has used me very ill, and has a great deal of my money in his hands which he will not give me. If you will but speak to Roy Dulub I shall certainly get it, and shall then be able to pay what money I owe to the merchants.

No. 326.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, January 11th, 1758.

I have wrote your Excellency two letters within these few days, but have not been favored with an answer. When I had the pleasure of seeing you at the camp near Rajamaul you told me I should lead the van. Bahadre Ally Cawn is this day gone on before me. I therefore desire you will order him to keep 2 coss behind me.

No. 327.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive. No date. Recd. January 12th, 1758.

Your letter informing me that you could not halt at Shahabad because Comgar Cawn and Bahadre Ally Cawn were encamped there, and that you would wait for me at Colgong, I have with pleasure received. I am now at Duanhaut and shall march every day till I join you at Colgong, where I desire you will wait.

No. 328.] From Colonel Clive to the Rajah of Beerboom, January 12th, 1758.

I have received your friendly letter and observe the contents. I am now marching with expedition to Patna. You may depend on it that I will speak to Roy Dulub in your favor.

No. 329.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive. No date. Recd. January 13th, 1758.

Your obliging letter that I had not answered your letters, that Bahadre Ally Cawn was gone on before you, and that I should write him to stay 2 coss behind you, I have with pleasure received and observe the contents. I always answer your letters the moment I receive them. The letter concerning Coja Ashrooph took up a day in answering. Altho' I am sick I do not stay long at any place. The 2nd of this Moon I arrived at Shahabad having marched every day. I do not know when I shall march from here. By the blessing of God when I do, and have the pleasure to see you, we will consult how we are to proceed. You shall lead the van, Bahadre Ally Cawn shall follow you, Rajah Bahadre, him and I will bring up the rear. This will be a proper way to march. I ordered Bahadre Ally Cawn to march on as there was no good place to encamp on.

No. 330.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive, January 10th. Recd. January 13th, 1758.

Your obliging letter that Coja Ashrooph had insulted Mr. Pearkes, Chief of the English factory at Patna, killed two of his men and wounded Mr. Pearkes, that you desired I would deliver up the offender, and that you enclosed me a letter from Mr. Pearkes with other papers, I have received, and from Mr. Pearkes' letter and the papers I have learnt the whole affair. I am surprized at the insolence of Coja Ashrooph. What power has he to quarrel with the Company's people and raise such a disturbance. Who is he? By the blessing of God I shall soon arrive there when I will do as you have wrote me and treat him so that other people may take warning thereby. I am now pretty well again and encamped near Succregully; tomorrow I shall pass the hills and march every day. I return you the papers and send an answer to Mr. Pearkes' letters.

No. 331.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, January 13th, 1758.

I have with pleasure received your two obliging letters and observe the contents. It gives me much concern to hear that you was ill, but by the blessing of God I hope you will soon recover. I have advice from Patna in three days that Ramnarain has posted guards on the bridge between Futtua and Patna, and will not suffer any one to pass. I shall march tomorrow 3 or 4 coss beyond Bahadre Ally Cawn and shall there wait for your Excellency.

No. 332.] From the RAJAH of Beerboom to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^d. January 13th, 1758.

Comgar Cawn, my uncle, of whom you must have heard, has been quarrelling with Sunder Sing. Everyone will assist his brother, friend, or relation. It is therefore very proper that I should assist my uncle, go where they are quarrelling, and endeavour to make up matters. You have always stood by me. I desire you will show my uncle the same favor as you have me. I am now marching that way. Everyone knows you are my patron. I desire you will send me one or two hundred soldiers or sepoys, and the Nabob's purwannah, and your letter to Comgar Cawn and Sunder Sing that I may make up matters between them. This will be doing me a great favor.

No. 333.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, January 14th, 1758.

I am informed that Riam Cawn and Shaike Abdool Russool are come to the ground that I left this morning. And as I am in great distress for want of cattle the Phousdar of Bogglepore not having supplied me altho' I both wrote and spoke to him, I am necessitated to march to Sultangunge near the river side, where I shall get my boats, and wait for your Excellency or till I have your further orders.

No. 334.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, January 13th. Rec^d. January 15th, 1758.

By the favour of God on Friday last, altho' I was ill, I passed Telliagurry and encamped at Shahabad. Of this I wrote you before. Yesterday I was obliged to halt on account of some baggage not coming up, but by the blessing of God I shall march tomorrow and continue it every day till I have the pleasure of seeing you, when we will consult how to proceed. I have wrote to Bahadur Ally Cawn never to go before you, and when I join you and march again I will then order the cannon to keep 2 coss behind you, Roy Dulub to follow the cannon, Coja Mahmud Haddee Cawn to follow him, and I will bring up the rear. It is not proper that you should be too far from me. I desire you will halt at the first good ground you meet with. I have wrote concerning all this to Roy Dulub.

No. 335.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, January 15th, 1758.

I have received letters from Patna that Ramnarrain is ready to pay his respects to you whenever you think proper to call him.

No. 336.] From RAMNARAIN to COLONEL CLIVE, January 13th. Rec^d. January 16th, 1758.

I have received your obliging letter which has given me much confidence. You wrote me that the Nabob's intentions towards me are good, and that he will continue me in the Government. From Geramul I received another letter wherein you write that you will be security for me. Two days before Geramul's arrival I received a letter from the Second of Patna, which made me quite easy; afterwards Geramul arrived and told me further particulars which gave me both pleasure and confidence. You are a great and good man, and your letter has given me much satisfaction. I am the Nabob's slave, and look on the business of this Subahship, and in short on all the Nabob's business as my own. The great trouble that such a man as you have taken in my affairs gives me much confidence. The moment Geramul arrived I wanted to go and pay my respects. On Sunday I shall pitch my tent, and by the blessing of God in two days shall leave the city and hope to be with you soon.

No. 337.] From GERAMUL to COLONEL CLIVE, January 13th. Rec^d. January 16th, 1758.

Soon after I took my leave of you I arrived at Patna, and according to the Nabob's orders I told Ramnarrain that he must go and wait on the Nabob. I have related everything to Ramnarrain that you told me, and he is quite free from all apprehensions. According to the Nabob's orders, and the expectation of your faver, he intends setting out to see the Nabob and you and will not delay.

No. 338.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, January 16th, 1758.

I have received letters both from Rajah Ramnarain and Germaul acquainting me that Ramnarain sets out tomorrow. I make no doubt but he has likewise wrote your Excellency of this. Permit me to congratulate your Excellency on this good news.

I this day arrived at Jehanguir, and shall wait on him for your Excellency.

No. 339.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive, January 15th. Recd. January 17th, 1758.

Your obliging letter wherein you write that you was in great distress for want of cattle, that you had both spoke and wrote to the Phousdar of Bogglepore, but he had not supplied you, and that you should march to Sultangunge where you would get your boats and wait for me, I have received with pleasure. I have spoke to the Phousdar and by the blessing of God he will send you cattle. I am much pleased to hear that you will wait for me at Sultangunge. Yesterday I encamped at Colgong and shall march tomorrow. By the blessing of God all is well.

No. 340.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive, January 15th. Recd. January 17th, 1758.

Your obliging letter that you had letters from Patna informing you that Ramnarain waited for my orders to come and pay his respects to me, I have with pleasure received. It was for this business that I sent Geramul who arrived there 8 days ago and saw Ramnarain. Geramul has wrote me that Ramnarrain will come, and I have in my answer ordered him to give confidence to Ramnarain.

No. 341.] From Rajah Sunder Sing, Bahadre, to Colonel Clive. No. date Recd. January 17th 1758.

I before addressed you in regard to Comgar Cawn raising disturbances in my country. He has since returned with two thousand new horsemen added to his old force. On one side he set fire to all the villages and plundered the inhabitants of their cattle, and many other things. He has plundered Sydabad and Jehanabad, where the merchants and Fringees trade. Many people drank poison and many more were killed. When I heard of this I was at Currack. I immediately set out after him, leaving my cannon and everything behind me. He fled carrying with him merchandize and money to the amount of some lacks, and for 30 coss set fire to the country; on the 15th of last month, in the afternoon, I came up with him, he was on the other side of a small river, and had planted some large jinjalls and wall-pieces on the bank; he was ready for battle, but I had not so much one piece of cannon with me; on both sides there were 500 men killed and many wounded. God blessed me with victory. With 50,000 men he at last got to Futtua, near Patna, and soon after left that place. I followed him by the Sungepoora road. I will not fail to inform you if anything further should happen.

I send you 2 gold mohurs as a present on my victory. Rajaram will inform you of further particulars.

No. 342.] From Colonel Clive to Rajah Sunder Sing, Bahadre, January 18th, 1758.

I have received your letter and observe the contents. I am very sorry that any disturbances should happen among the Nabob's subjects which can only end in defrauding the Nabob of his revenues. For the future I hope all will be peace and then trade will flourish.

No. 343.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive, January 17th. Recd. January 18th, 1758.

I this day arrived at Furruck Ashogney. By the favor of God I shall march tomorrow and hope soon to have the pleasure of seeing you. Your obliging letter that you had heard from Ramnarain and Geramul that Ramnarain was to set out on the 17th to pay his respects to me, I have with pleasure received. They have likewise wrote to me on that subject. I congratulate you on this affair. I am much pleased to hear that you will wait for me at Jehanguir. I have a great desire to see you and shall march every day till I have that pleasure.

Translation of the purwannah for the granted lands.

Seal of Nabob Jaffir Ally Cawn.

1170
Aalumgeer Emperor,
fighting for the Faith.
His devoted Meer Mahmud Jaffir Ally Cawn
Bahadre, Shuja Al
Mulk, Hossain-ô-Dowla,
Mahaubut Jang
Anno 4th

Ye Zemindars, Chowdras, Tallookdars, Muccuddums, Raáyá, Morsawreans, Mootawettawans of the Chucklaw of Hooghley and others situated in Bengal, the terrestrial Paradise; know that the Zemindary, Chowdrahy, and Tallookdarry of the countries in the subjoined list hath been given by treaty to the most illustrious and most magnificent the English Company, the glory and ornament of trade. The said Company will be careful to govern, according to the established custom and usage without any gradual deviation, and watch for the prosperity of the people. Your duty is to give no cause of complaint to the Raáyá of the Company, who on their part are to govern with such kindness that husbandry may receive a daily encrease; that all disorder may be suppressed, drunkenness and other illicit practices prevented, and the imperial tributes be sent in due time. Such part of the above said country as may be situated to the west of Calcutta, on the other side of the Ganges, does not appertain to the Company; know then ye Zemindars, &c., that ye are dependants of the Company, and that ye must submit to such treatment as they give you, whether good or bad, and this is my express injunction.

Twenty-four Mahals.

The Pergunnah of Mugra.
Ditto Khasspoor.
Ditto Mudummull.
Ditto Ekktiarpoor.
Ditto Burjutty.
Ditto Azimabad.
Ditto Moodagotcha.
Ditto Putcha Kollu Coolley.
Part of the Pergunnah of Shahpoor, Shah Nagur.
Part of the Pergunnah of Ghur.
The Pergunnah of Kaee Juree.
Ditto Deccan Saugeer.
Part of the Pergannah of Calcutta.
Ditto Paikan.
Ditto Munpoor.
Ditto Ameerabad.
Ditto Mahomed Ameepore Mellung Mahal.
The Pergunnah of Hattiahgur.
Ditto Meida.
Part of the Pergannah of Akbarpoor.
Ditto Ballia.
Ditto Bussindarry.

Dated the 5th of Rubbial Sawney, Anno Quarto.

(*In the Nabob's own hand serving by way of sign manual*). It is written—Finis.

(*In Maha Rajah Dulup Ram's own hand as naib*) Seen.

(*In Rajah Rwage Rajah Bullub's own hand as Huzzoor Nevis*.

Raáyá, properly Ráiyat, vernacularly Ráyat, and, corruptly, Ryot Tl. [A—plur Raaya or Râia or Râya from—to pasture to feed to protect]. Hindi and Mar: Ráiyat Beng., Ráyutu Tel. A subject, but especially a cultivator, a farmer, a peasant.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

The 5th of Ribbeal Sauni, Anno Quarto, registered in the Imperial Register.

(In Rajah Coonghu Baharree's own hand as Dewan of Bengal) the 5th of Ribbi Al Sauni, anno quarto, registered in the Duannee Register.

No. 344.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, January 20th, 1758.

I am moved about 2 coss from the place where I was encamped, to make room for your Excellency's army. I have advice that there is three ships arrived at Calcutta from Europe. I have the pleasure to acquaint your Excellency that your Sunnud is on the way from Delhi. Permit me to congratulate you on this great event and the other good news. I hope your Excellency will be blessed with a long and peaceful reign.

No. 345.] From Juggat Seat and Seerup Chund to Colonel Clive. No date, Recd. January 21st, 1758.

We have the pleasure to hear from our Vacqueel, Rampursaud, that there is given unto you a 6,000 munsub, 5,000 horse, and the title of Zubdatul Mulk Naserud-Dowla (the perfection of the kingdom, the victorious of the Empire). Permit us to congratulate you on this great title and Munsub. We pray that your health, riches, and power may daily increase.

No. 346.] From Golum Hossein Cawn to Colonel Clive. No date, Recd January 21st, 1758.

I have the pleasure to hear that the King has given you a title and munsub, I cannot express my joy on this occasion. I pray that your power may daily encrease.

Tancaw* to Rajah Telockchund, Rajah of Burdwaun.

The
Nabob's
Seal.

Noble and beloved Rajah Telockchund, health to you.

A tancaw upon being given to the English Company for twenty-six lakhs, the half of which is thirteen lakhs, to be in force during the Bengal year 1165, you are to pay that sum to the said Company within the year, applying to that purpose all the revenues and products whatever of your zemindary, and you are to take a receipt for the same formally expressed and sealed. When this is accomplished the sum which you have disbursed in consequence of the present order will be given credit for in the treasury, on your producing the Company's receipt, dated the 21st of Ribbial Sauni, Anno Quarto.

The Nabob's Sign Manual, Ministers, Huzzoor Nevis, and Dewan of Bengal's own hand-writing as before in the perwannah for the granted lands.

Another tancaw of the same tenor and date for nine lacks on Rajah Kissenchund, Rajah of Oocktran, &c.

Another tancaw of the same tenor and date 2,83,333 rupees on Amiur Beg Cawn, Bahadre, Phousdar of Hughley, &c., tancaws on the same person for the same sums for the Bengal year 1166.

N.B.—Tancaws of the same tenor and date are likewise given on the same persons for the ballance of the Nabob's due this year, answering to the Bengal year 1164.

The Bengal year 1165 begins April 1758.

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* Tankhwáh, pronounced Tankhá, corruptly, Tanka, Tunka, Tankwah, Tuncaw, H. &c., Tankha, Mar.

An order or draft for money, a bill of exchange, an assignment by the ruling authority upon the revenue of any particular locality in payment of wages, pay, gratuity or pension, or in repayment of advances, or any specified head of charge: in the Dakhin the standard rent-roll of a village or district; also the oldest revenue assessment, or that fixed by the *Ádil-Shâhi* princes of Bijapur, and resettled by *Toral Mal* in the reign of Akbar, for the same tract of country; also under the Moghul Government, an assignment of revenue to maintain vessels of war at Surat to convoy pilgrims going to Mekka by Sea.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

No. 347.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive. No date. Recd. January 21st, 1758.

The Direction of the Letter.

Health from God to the Lord Nabob, the most gracious, the beloved son of my soul, the perfection of the Kingdom, the Victorious of the Empire, the Nabob, Colonel Clive, the intrepid, the unmoved in battle.

Let the Lord Nabob, the beloved son of my soul be in health.

By letters from Rampersaud I learn that the titles, posts, and munsubs which I wrote for myself, my sons, my relations and friends are settled. I have sent Rampersaud's letters to Dulubram and desired him to send them to you for your perusal, which he will certainly do. I am so delighted at the title that is given you that it would take up a sheet of paper to express my joy. Be blessed, happy, and great. I have ordered a seal to be made according to your titles which I will deliver you when I have the pleasure of seeing you. I enclose you a letter of congratulation from my beloved brothers Juggat Seat and Seroop Chund.

A paper enclosed which is a copy of Rampersaud's address.

There is given to Colonel Clive a 6,000 munsub, 5,000 horse, and the titles of Zubdutil Mulk Nasarud Dowla (the perfection of the Kingdom, the Victorious of the Empire) by the blessing of God, the Sunnuds for them will be soon finished when I will send them. God give him happiness.

No. 348.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, January 21st, 1758.

I have received your greatly obliging letter with my titles. I am much pleased at the honour the King has done me, but above all at the great favor you have shewed me in writing to me as your son. I hope your Sunnud will soon arrive, and that you may always enjoy perfect health.

No. 349.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive. No date. Recd. January 22nd, 1758.

Your obliging letter that you was moved 2 coss from Jehanguir, that there were three ships arrived at Calcutta, that you heard my Sunnud for the Subaship was coming, and that you congratulated me thereon, I have with pleasure received. You have acted very properly in moving on 2 coss. I am very much pleased to hear that three of your ships are arrived. By the favor of God the King has settled the titles, munsabs and posts on me, my son, my relations and friends just as I wrote for them. I before wrote you of this. I sent Rampersaud's letter to Dulubram and desired him to send it to you for your perusal, and I imagine you have seen it. I congratulate you and your friends on this good news. I this day arrived at Jehanguir and shall halt tomorrow for some of my people who are not come up.

No. 350.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive. No date, Recd. January 23rd, 1758.

I have received your obliging letter that you was pleased at the honor the King had done you, and that above all you was pleased at my writing to you as my son. I look on you more than my son, and am very desirous that your character may be greater. To-day I encamped at Cuddlekey and shall march tomorrow.

No. 351.] From Ramnarain to Colonel Clive. Recd. January 23rd, 1758.

I before wrote you the time that I should arrive with you. Germaul goes before me to wait on you. Tomorrow I shall be near your camp. Germaul will inform you of further particulars. Whatever you think is proper I will do.

No. 352.] From Colonel Clive to Juggat Seat and Seroop Chund, January 23rd, 1758.

Your obliging letter that you was pleased to hear that my title and munsub were settled I have with pleasure received. I congratulate you on this great event. By the blessing of God our friendship shall daily increase.

I desire you will always write me of your heatlh till I have the pleasure of seeing you.

No. 353.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the CHUTA NABOB, January 23rd, 1758.

Permit me to congratulate you on the great good news that we have received of the Nabob's Sunnud, munsubs, and titles being settled, as he wrote for them for himself, his sons, his family and friends. I hope till I have the pleasure of seeing you that you will always write me of your health.

[The same to the Beaghum Saib.]

No. 354.] From COLONEL CLIVE to GOLAM HOSSEIN CAWN, January 23rd, 1758.

Your obliging letter that you was pleased to hear that the King had given me a title and munsub, I have with pleasure received. By the blessing of God I hope our friendship will daily increase.

No. 355.] From RAMNARAIN to COLONEL CLIVE, January 20th. Rec^{d}. January 24th, 1758.

I before wrote you the time that I should set out to pay my respects to the Nabob, and this day I went into my boats and hope to have the pleasure of seeing you in two days. Mr. Pearkes will inform you of further particulars.

No. 356.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, January 25th, 1758.

I cannot help complaining to your Excellency of the insolent behaviour of the chouqueys at Succregully and Telliagurry. They have refused to pass two horses belonging to Mr. Pearkes; they have stopt some necessaries belonging to one of my officers, and I have this moment advice that they have confin'd two or three of my cossids and are always wanting to extract money from every one. I desire you will send orders to have them released, and forbid the people to act in such a manner again.

No. 357.] From COLONEL CLIVE to ROYDULUB, January 25th, 1758.

The chouqueys at Succregully and Telliagurry have behaved in a very insolent manner. They have refused to pass two horses belonging to Mr. Pearkes, and they have confined two or three pair of my cossids. As you are Dewan I look upon it that these people are under your orders, therefore desire you will order them not to do so again.

No. 358.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^{d}. January 26th, 1758.

By the favor of God I am very well and hope you are so. I imagine Ramnarain has been to wait you. My army suffers very much here by the extravagant price of every thing, therefore I must march on; if you will march tomorrow I will follow you the next day. Our stay here is of no signification.

An acknowledgment from Amir Beg Cawn Bahadre.

According to two perwannahs of the Nabob's sealed with his seal I will give to the English Company in the Bengal years 1165 and 1166 (provided I am continued in the Chuckla of Hughley, &c.), the sum of 13,33,332 rupees, the half of which is 6,66,666, rupees sealed with the seal of Amir Beg Cawn, Bahadre, and dated the last of the month Ribbial Sauni, Anno Quarto.

No. 359.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, January 26th, 1758.

I have received your Excellency's obliging letter and observe the contents. Amir Beg Cawn Bahadre is going to wait on you, and he will acquaint you with further particulars.

Colonel Clive's Agreement.

I have received 12 tancaws on Burdwaun, &c., for 19,31,203 rupees and do promise that I will not take the Cubsannah from the Zemindars and Inmandars, and that for two months after the time of payment is expired I will not trouble them.

(Signed by Colonel Clive.)

Colonel Clive's Seal.

Colonel Clive,
Sabut Jung,
Bahadre.

No. 360.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive, January 26th. Recd. January 27th, 1758.

Your obliging letter that the chouqueys at Telliagurry and Succregully had stopt your people and your cossids I have with pleasure received and observe the contents. The moment I received your letter I wrote one in very strong terms to Meer Dowd that he should send for these people and threaten them never to do so again, to pass immediately Mr. Pearkes his horses, to release your cossids, and if they stop them again to punish them severely.

No. 361.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, January 30th, 1758.

I this day arrived at Derreawpoor with all my forces and shall halt tomorrow, but propose marching the next day if your Excellency does not countermand it. To hear of your health will always give me great pleasure.

No. 362.] From Colonel Clive to Ramnarain, January 30th, 1758.

I this day arrived at Derreawpoor with all my forces. Rest assured of my good intentions towards you, and that what I have promised I will stand to. For further particulars I refer you to Nuncomar.

No. 363.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive, January 31st, 1758.

Your obliging letter that you was arrived at Derreawpoor, that you should halt for one day, but proposed marching the next if I did not countermand it, I have with pleasure received. You will certainly march tomorrow. I this day encamped at Rush Nulla and shall march to Derreawpoor tomorrow.

No. 364.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, February 2nd, 1758.

I this day encamped at Collidera and propose marching tomorrow near Futtua. I am to request that you will write me what your intentions are and likewise of your health.

No. 365.] From Colonel Clive to Amir Beg Cawn Bahadre, February 2nd, 1758.

I am much surprized that you have not favored me with a letter since we parted at Rush Nulla, even to acquaint me with your health. I this day arrived at Collidera and propose marching to Futtua tomorrow.

No. 366.] From the Nabob to Colonel Clive, February 2nd, 1758.

I this day encamped at Penarack in good health; the quick marches I have made lately has broke many of my carriages, which will oblige me to halt here for one day, therefore wherever you are I desire you will likewise halt and then march.

No. 367.] From AMIR BEG CAWN BAHADRE to COLONEL CLIVE, February 2nd, 1758.

The Nabob is encamped at Penarack and will halt here tomorrow. He writes you to halt one day and I hope you will do so.

No. 368.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, February 2nd, 1758.

Your obliging letter that you was encamped at Penarack, that you was obliged to halt one day on account of some carriages being broke, and that I should halt one day and march the next, I have with pleasure received and shall act according to your orders.

No. 369.] From COLONEL CLIVE to AMIR BEG CAWN BAHADRE, February 2nd, 1758.

Your obliging letter which I was long in expectation of I have with pleasure received. Since you left me you have not wrote me one line concerning Ramnarrain's affairs. I hear some bad reports about him, but do not give credit to them, as I have not heard anything from you.

No. 370.] From RAMNARAIN to COLONEL CLIVE, February 2nd, 1758.

I have with much pleasure received your obliging letter. The great favor you show me, I believe, have been the occasion of the Nabob's favor to me. By the favor of God I shall march with the Nabob to Patna. I desire you will always write me of your health. For further particulars I refer you to Nuncomar.

No. 371.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^{d}. February 3rd, 1758.

Your obliging letter that you would halt one day and march the next I have with pleasure received. By the favor of God I shall march tomorrow morning.

No. 372.] From AMIR BEG CAWN BAHADRE to COLONEL CLIVE, February 3rd, 1758.

Your two obliging letters, one that I had not wrote to you, and the other concerning Ramnarain, I have with great pleasure received. Since I saw you I have wrote four letters and was under much uneasiness till I received your letter. I suffer much in being separated from you. The Nabob's favor for Ramnarrain encreases daily and twice a day he comes into the presence. To-day he goes to encamp near Roydulub to transact some affairs with him. By the blessing of God all is well. I enclose two letters for your perusal from the Rungpoor Phousdar to the Nabob and Golam Hossein Cawn. Pray write what you think proper to be done.

No. 373.] From COLONEL CLIVE to ROYDULUB, February 3rd, 1758.

According to the Nabob's orders I gave encouragement to Ramnarain to come here, and I delivered him to the Nabob, and further I agreed that he should be continued in his post, that he should enjoy his life, his credit and goods, but to this day I know of nothing that has been done for him. I hear that he is behind the army which surprizes me very much. I therefore desire that when you are alone with the Nabob that you will inform yourself how his heart is inclined towards Ramnarain, whether he stands to the Treaty and write me of it that I may write accordingly to the Nabob. Till I have an answer to this I can't write to the Nabob. This is a very important affair.

No. 374.] From COLONEL CLIVE to AMIR BEG CAWN BAHADRE, February 3rd, 1758.

In my tent the Nabob with his own mouth agreed that Ramnarain should be continued in his government, that he should enjoy his life, his credit and goods; all this you are very well acquainted with. There is no occasion for my writing you more on that subject. It was on this account that I gave encouragement to come here and by you I delivered him to the Nabob. I hear that Ramnarain is now behind all the army. It is proper that he should be in the van; how comes it that he is in the rear. This surprizes me much. I therefore desire when you are alone with the Nabob that you will inform yourself concerning this and advise me of it that I may write accordingly to the Nabob.

No. 375.] From Cossim Ally Cawn to Colonel Clive, January 21st. Recd. February 3rd, 1758.

Your obliging letter that if the French would fight it was no matter if I destroyed them in attempting to take them I have with pleasure received. According to your orders I wrote expressly to my people to go and take the French, and they went immediately but found them ready to fight. On both sides there were jinjalls and cannon. A nulla was between them which the French crost, and advancing upon my people fought with great intrepidity, but luckily three or four of them being killed they retired into their fort. Bussunt Dollumcoot and Beekumdee, two Zemindars of another Phousdary, are great friends to the French, and have permitted them to make strong intrenchments and a fort near their possessions; in their fort they have many servants, a large stock of provisions, and everything necessary for war. I have always been fighting with these Zemindars, and on this account they assist the French which makes them much stronger. My people are ready to fight them day and night. You before wrote me if I wanted any assistance that on my writing you would send it, please therefore send 200 soldiers immediately with a Commander whom they will obey, but as you are at a great distance it would be better if you were to write to the Chief of Cossimbazar to send the soldiers from there, that they may arrive soon and consult with us how to destroy the French.

No. 376.] From Colonel Clive to Cossim Ally Cawn, February 3rd, 1758.

I have with pleasure received your obliging letter and observe the contents. I shall very soon send some forces to your assistance, and in the meantime desire you will endeavour to surround the French, stop their provisions, destroy their boats, and distress them as much as possible, which will give me great pleasure.

No. 377.] From Roydulub to Colonel Clive. Recd. February 4th, 1758.

Your obliging letter in regard to Ramnarian, that I should inform myself how the Nabob's heart is inclined towards him and advise you of it, I have with pleasure received and observe the contents. It is true that Ramnarrian was behind the army, but I brought him up to the place where I was encamped. His affairs are on the carpet. I will learn how the Nabob is inclined towards him and advise you of it.

No. 378.] From Colonel Clive to the Nabob, February 5th, 1758.

I this day encamped at Jaffer Cawn's garden and propose marching tomorrow to Bakkipoor.* It surprizes me much to see some of your forces march on before me without acquainting me when you promised I should lead the van. When I was at Colledera I wrote to desire you would acquaint me what your intentions, but you have not favored me with an answer.

No. 379.] From Ramnarain to Colonel Clive, February 4th Recd. February 5th, 1758.

On account of the favor you have shewn me the Nabob favors me daily. I cannot express the great character of Roydulub. The Nabob has ordered perwannahs to be wrote to all the Zemindars that he continues me in my Government, and that by me they must come and pay their respects to him. Whatever is done for me I look on it entirely owing to your favor. By the favor of God I hope you will have a great character and enjoy long life. I am now with Roydulub having some great affairs to settle with him, and this day we encamped 2 coss from Bar.

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* Modern Bankipoor.

A paper enclosed.

You favored me much in writing to Dullub Ram concerning my affairs; he shewed me the letter. Your protection gains me the Nabob's favor and I believe Roydulub's. The Nabob knew that I was his slave before, and Roydulub favored me before.

No. 380.] From COLONEL CLIVE to RAMNARRAIN, February 5th, 1758.

I have with great pleasure received your obliging letter and observe the contents. I cannot express the pleasure I have in hearing of your welfare. By the blessing of God I hope in few days your affairs will be happily accommodated.

No. 381.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, February 6th, 1758.

By the blessing of God I this day arrived safe with all my forces at Bakkipoor. It is now many days since I have had the pleasure of hearing from you; please therefore to write me of your health.

No. 382.] From AMIR BEG CAWN BAHADRE to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^d. February 6th, 1758.

Your obliging letter that according to the Nabob's orders you encouraged Ramnarrain to come, that you hear his forces are behind when it was proper he should be in the van, and that I should inform you concerning all this, that you may write to the Nabob accordingly, I have with pleasure received. The Nabob favors Ramnarrain daily. Ramnarrain was encamped near the Nabob till he went to Roydulub to settle some affairs with him. Ramnarrain's affairs are now begun, but there is nothing to fear. There is no occasion for your writing to the Nabob on this subject. If anything should happen I will inform you. By the blessing of God all is well.

No. 383.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, February 6th, 1758.

Your obliging letter that you was arrived at Jaffir Cawn's garden, and that you should march tomorrow to Bakkipoor, that my forces were gone before, and that I had not wrote you what were my intentions, I have with pleasure received. My army now approaches near the city and for this reason I sent Cojah Mahmud Haddee Cawn to stop the passage. I wrote you of this, but by your not receiving the letter imagine it must have miscarried. It would be better if you were to march without the city to Bakkipoor.

No. 384.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^d. February 7th, 1758.

To-day you will encamp at Bakkipore, but as I intend that my army shall encamp there I desire you will go to Duanapore.* God has been pleased to take to himself Mahomed Omar, Jemidar, an old friend of mine. I have continued his son in his post, and desire you will favor him, which will give me much pleasure.

No. 385.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, February 7th, 1758.

I have with pleasure received your letter and observe the contents. Yesterday I encamped at Bakkipore, and to-day I marched from thence about half a coss to an island formed by the great river, a very proper place, and where my boats are near me. You may depend on it that I shall take all opportunities of favoring those whom you favor.

No. 386.] From the CHUTA NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^d. February 8th, 1758.

Your greatly obliging letter that you congratulated me on the good news of the Nabob's Sunnud, munsubs, and titles being settled as he wrote for them,

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* Modern Dinapoor.

I have with pleasure received. I cannot express my joy at hearing that your titles and munsub is settled. I congratulate you and all your friends on this great event. I desire that you will always remember me and write me of your health.

No. 387.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, February 7th. Recd. February 8th, 1758.

Your obliging letter that you was encamped at Bakkipore, that you had not heard from me a long time, and that you desired I would write you of my health, I have with pleasure received and I am glad to hear you are well. By the blessing of God I am in good health. Tomorrow I march to Jaffer Cawn's garden, and the second of the new Moon shall go into the city. Yesterday I wrote you to go and encamp at Duanapore, as my forces would soon arrive at Bakkipore. I imagine you have done so. I desire you will always write me of your health.

No. 388.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, February 9th, 1758.

Your letter in answer to mine I have with pleasure received. I before wrote to your Excellency that I was removed from Bakkipore to an island where my boats could come to me. To hear of your health will give me much pleasure.

No. 389.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, February 9th. Recd. February 10th, 1758.

Your two obliging letters wherein you write that you was encamped about half a coss from Bakkipore upon an island by the great river, I have with great pleasure received. You have acted very well in encamping where you are. By the blessing of God tomorrow, the first of the Moon being a lucky day, I shall encamp at Bakkipoor. By the favor of God all is well. I am ever desirous of hearing of your health.

No. 390.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE, February 11th, 1758.

This day being Sunday, the second of the Moon, by the blessing of God I arrived in the fort. As I look on you as my son I congratulate you on this. Daunapore Pulwarry, a jaguire, belonging to your brother, Meer Nizam Addin Ally Cawn Bahadre lying near your ground, its in your power either to save or destroy it. I am desirous seeing you.

No. 391.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, February 11th, 1758.

Your obliging letter that you was safely arrived in the fort, that you congratulated me on it, and that Daunapore Pulwarry, a jaguire belonging to my brother, Meer Nizam Addin Ally Cawn Bahadre was in my power, I have with pleasure received. Permit me to congratulate you on your save arrival in the fort. If you will please to send a man to shew this jaguire, I will send a guard of my people and give them orders not to permit any one to touch anything. I am very desirous to see you.

No. 392.] From RAMNARAIN to COLONEL CLIVE. Recd. February 12th, 1758.

The reason of my being so long from you is some Durbar affairs have taken up my whole time, the transactions of which you will be informed of by Nuncomar who was present when my affairs were settled. Your friendship for me has occasioned both the Nabob and Roydulub to favor me. I cannot express how much I am obliged to you. This day being Saturday, in company with the Nabob I came into the city, and went to my own house. Nuncomar has spoke to you in regard to an affair which I am persuaded you will favor me in.

No. 393.] From the NABOB to COLONEL CLIVE. No date, Recd. February 12th, 1758.

Your obliging letter that if I would send a man to shew where Pulwarry is that you would send a guard, I have with pleasure received. According to your writing I have sent Peam Sing to go with your people. By the favor of God all is well here. I am very desirous to have the pleasure of seeing you.

No. 394.] From COLONEL CLIVE to the NABOB, February 12th, 1758.

Your obliging letter that you had sent Peam Sing to go with my people to Pulwarry, and that you desired to see me, I have with pleasure received. According to your orders I have sent people with Peam Sing. By the blessing of God I hope in two or three days to wait upon you.

No. 395.] From COLONEL CLIVE to RAMNARAIN, February 12th, 1758.

I have with pleasure read your obliging letter and observe the contents. The reason why I interested myself in your affairs was the great character I heard of you from all the people of the country. You may always depend upon my friendship and readiness to serve you. Always write me of your health.

No. 396.] From JUGGAT SEAT and SEROOP CHUND to COLONEL CLIVE. Rec^d. February 14th 1758.

By the goodness of God he who is the light of my eyes, my son the rich Golandahund (whom God preserve) is to be married on Thursday, the 7th of the Moon Jamandizanil (the 16th of February). I am persuaded you have much favor for me. I have wrote you of this happy marriage and according to our custom have sent you a present, which I desire you will do me the favor to accept of and be pleased to let me have the happiness of hearing from you that you have received it. May God grant you long life and prosperity.

The wedding present is 1,000 rupees.

No. 397.] From COLONEL CLIVE to RAMNARAIN, February 15th, 1758.

Yesterday I went to wait on the Nabob; after discoursing on many matters he asked me if it was absolutely my desire that he should give you the kilaut. I told him I had given my word, besides the great character I heard of you from every one that you was by much the fittest man for this Government, on which the Nabob said, I will give him the kilaut the first lucky day; you may now look on your affairs as finished. I wish you joy on this great event. Rest assured that I am your friend and always ready to serve you.

No. 398.] From RAMNARAIN to COLONEL CLIVE. No date. Rec^d. February 16th, 1758.

Your obliging letter, which gave me much satisfaction, I have with pleasure received. You write that you had been to visit the Nabob and talk'd to him on my affairs, that the Nabob said he would give me the kilaut the first lucky day, and that you wished me joy on the occasion. All this I look upon as entirely owing to your friendship. By the blessing of God I shall receive the kilaut in a lucky time. If all the hairs of my head could speak they could not express how much I am obliged to you. God preserve you. When I receive the kilaut, I shall do myself the pleasure of advising you of it.

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Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 268 F. D.—23-2-93.—50.

To the Hon'ble George Pigot, Esq., &c., Members of the Select Secret Committee at Fort St. George.

Letter from the Select Committee at Bengal.

Gentlemen,—We have taken up the *Sally* Captain Richard Finley to carry these advices, and are to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 13th and 27th October.

The general letter to your Board will inform you of the time the forces arrived at Fulta, and the re-capture of Fort William by Vice-Admiral Watson, who has delivered it over to the President and Council here.

We are obliged to you Gentlemen for the efforts you have made to re-establish our Hon'ble Masters in these Provinces, but we apprehend that cannot be completed upon terms either honorable or advantageous to our employers by any other means than compelling the Nabob by dint of force to consent to such propositions as we may judge for the interest of the Company to make. This we are afraid cannot be expected from the present number of our troops against so powerful an enemy as we have to deal with, and as it will by no means answer the ends of our re-establishment merely to defend our own without exacting ample restitution for our losses and satisfaction for the charges the Company will be put to in consequence of the Subah's violent proceedings, we must recommend it to you Gentlemen, to exert yourselves still further on behalf of our employers, by supplying us with more men, powder and other ammunition by the first conveyance.

We shall now speak to your conduct relative to this expedition; first concerning the independent powers you have given Colonel Clive, next the very extraordinary step of consigning all the money and military stores to that gentleman only, and lastly, giving him directions to return with his troops whenever you may call upon him, leaving as many as he may judge necessary for the defence of Calcutta.

In regard to the first, though no persons can have a higher opinion of the integrity of Colonel Clive than we have, or would more readily acquiesce to his judgment for conducting any military operations by land which may occur in the course of this expedition; yet we cannot conceive by what authority you have assumed a right in giving that gentleman the powers you have done, and therein treating us in the light of a subordinate, notwithstanding you have admitted and addressed us as a Governor and Council. The incoherence of this proceeding is so apparent, that we are astonished at your overlooking it. The only reason assigned by you for this unprecedented conduct, *viz.*, "That a difference in opinion might not obstruct the necessary operations for the good of the service," is very weakly guarded against by the alternative you have adopted in giving this independent power to Colonel Clive, as you must know it is impossible we can submit thereto, or admit that you have a right to give them, whilst we think ourselves the Governor and Council you have stiled us. We must remark likewise that we think the service is more likely to be prejudiced by these powers than benefited. It being but reasonable to imagine that we who have resided in the country so many years must be better acquainted with the nature of it, and what operations would be most for the Company's interest, than an entire stranger. Should any of the Colonel's plans therefore miscarry which deviate from our sentiments, we must esteem you gentlemen responsible to the Hon'ble Company for the consequences.

As to the very extraordinary step you have taken in consigning the money and military stores to Colonel Clive only, we must take the liberty to observe, that you have by this act entirely rendered invalid the orders from Home that no money or cash shall be disbursed without the consent and approbation of the Board, neither have you made the Colonel's accounts liable to any check whatever agreeable to the Hon'ble Company's directions. We are at a loss to conjecture what motives could have urged you to this irregular conduct, being no way conscious of having merited so much diffidence from you, gentlemen, and we think our unhappy situation deserved a very different treatment.

We must in the last place object to the superiority you have assumed in directing Colonel Clive to return with his troops from hence when you shall call for him, leaving as many as he may judge sufficient for the defence of Calcutta; a superiority we can never submit to, as we esteem ourselves competent judges what number of troops will be necessary for our defence. Give us leave to remark likewise, that the number of men now sent us, joined to the supply under Major Killpatrick do not exceed, if equal, the number of military detained at your Presidency, which were destined by the Hon'ble Company for the service of Bengal.

Upon the whole we are of opinion, gentlemen, the authority and trust invested in us by our Hon'ble Masters have been highly infringed by your unprecedented conduct; that you have assumed a power which may in its consequences prove prejudicial to our Hon'ble Masters affairs in these Provinces, should Colonel Clive determine to abide by the independency you have given him. That you have deviated from the orders of our employers wherein they strictly direct, that no money shall be disbursed without the consent and approbation of the Board, and that all accounts shall be submitted to the inspection of a Committee appointed for that purpose, and that you have acted very derogatory to the true interest of the Hon'ble Company in several particulars, all which we shall represent in our advices to the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, and doubt not they will do us and themselves the Justice to take notice of a conduct so new and despotick.

Captain Finley having agreed to bring down as many men on his vessel as he can accommodate upon terms to be agreed on with you, we beg leave to recommend the assisting of that gentleman in the sale of his cargo, and returning his vessel to us as soon as possible with troops.

Before we conclude this letter, permit us Gentlemen, to second the request made in our general letter for an ample and speedy supply of money, as the neglect of it may be very prejudicial to our affairs, circumstanced as we are at present.

We are Gentlemen,
Your most obedient servants,
ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*
WILLIAM WATTS.
RICHARD BECHER.
J. L. HOLWELL.

FORT WILLIAM,
8th January 1757.

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., &c., Gentlemen of Select Committee.

Letter from Colonel Clive at Bengal.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,—After a tedious and difficult passage the whole fleet which left Fort St. George under command of Admiral Watson, arrived off Point Palmirahs the 3rd of December, excepting the *Blaze* Fire ship and *Marlborough*, Indiaman, the former proving leaky about a fortnight after our outset, was despatched to Bombay, and the latter parted Company with the fleet the 16th November last, in latitude 18° N. since which we have heard nothing of her.

The *Kent*, *Tyger* and *Walpole* arrived at Ingerlee, 12th of December, and at Fulta the 15th, but the *Cumberland, Salisbury* and *Bridgwater* having fallen in with Point Palmirahs to leeward of the shoal, were obliged to put to sea again, by which accident the *Salisbury* and *Bridgwater* did not reach Fulta till the 22nd December, and the *Cumberland* has not as yet been heard of.

The *Protector*, *Lapwing*, *Snow* and *Bonetta Ketch* arrived in the river about the same time with the earliest of the fleet. By the two former I received original and duplicate of your favor of the 27th October.

After finding so few effective Europeans at Fulta who (volunteers included) did not amount to more than one hundred, my disappointment on finding the small number of seapoys that had been embarked on the *Protector* and *Lapwing* was very great.

The absence of the *Cumberland* and *Marlborough* deprives me of about 250 Europeans and 430 seapoys with almost all the artillery and military stores.

Notwithstanding these disadvantages I have the pleasure of acquainting you that we are in possession now of Fort William, which was retaken the 2nd instant. Admiral Watson took possession of it in His Majesty's name, and the next day delivered it over to the Company's representatives. For all the particulars of the military operations I take the liberty to refer you to the accompanying journal.

The 7th at night a detachment of military and seamen embarked on board the *Bridgwater* and all the sloops and vessels that could be got together, to surprise Hughley. The *Bridgwater* running aground retarded the expedition, however she was got off, and proceeded yesterday with the other vessels.

As our quick progress has occasioned a general consternation we have room to hope they will meet with success.

The letters to the Nabob of Bengal from the President Salabat Jung and Mahomet Ally Cawn were forwarded with one from myself, and I understand safely delivered, but as yet I have received nothing from him in answer.

The President's letter to the Nabob of Cuttack has been likewise dispatched, but as he is at a considerable distance being gone to treat with the Morattas, I have not as yet heard of its receipt.

Our intelligence from the country is as yet very indifferent; what appears certain is that the Nabob of Perenea is killed, and his country subjected, and that Seer Rajah Dowlat is at Muxadavad, and intends marching against us the 12th of this month. I have fixed upon the most convenient spot without the town to wait his coming. From the slight trial we have hitherto had of the enemy we cannot form a judgment what success we may promise ourselves against them, deficient as we are of our compliment of men, artillery and stores: the event must needs be doubtful.

I hope Gentlemen this will determine you to send a speedy reinforcement of sepoys, if not of Europeans, such a supply as will at least make up the number intended me of 2,000 seapoys, of which only the half is come.

The gentlemen here are come to a Resolution of razing the houses near the Fort, and I shall give my utmost assistance in putting it into the best posture of defence possible, which however can never make it more than barely tenable against a country enemy, for to all its former defects when taken from us, the moors have broke down part of the curtain to make room for a mosque they were erecting.

As there is no one here capable of planing or erecting a fortification proper for this settlement, I cannot help representing to you Gentlemen the immediate necessity of sending a skilful person for that service from the coast.

Most of the cannon, carriages, shot and shell lost in the place were either retaken here, or at Tanna's and Bongee Bongee, but hardly any small arms or powder.

A large quantity of broad-cloth and about 600 bales of the investment for Europe has been likewise recovered, but of all other goods, whether Company's or private, little or nothing is left. The Dutch and French both have accounts that war with France was declared at Bombay some time in October, and the French we hear are very busy fortifying Chandernagore.

Monsieur La Poitrie, third of Council at Chandernagore, arrived the 4th instant, with proposals from the Governor and Council there to Admiral Watson for a neutrality in the Ganges between the two nations; and Mr. Watson offered to accept, provided they would immediately join the English against the Nabob, but the gentlemen at Chandernagore rejected the condition, and so the matter dropt.

Monsieur La Poitrie gave out that he saw a letter from Monsieur De Leyrit to the Governor of Chandernagore, dated the 4th of November, which mentioned that at the receipt of that letter Monsieur Bussy would be far advanced in his march towards this province, but the circumstance is too improbable to gain any credit.

The gentlemen here intend dispatching the *Syren* sloop in a few days to England, when I shall take the opportunity of acquainting the Secret Committee with the retaking the place and other transactions.

Inclosed is a general return of the troops under my command. The Paymaster and Commissary likewise transmit their accounts of disbursements at Fort St. George also rolls of the Seapoys and Lascars paid there.

You will please, Gentlemen, to order that the expedition be credited with the amount of pay advanced to such companies of sepoys as were detained at Fort St. George.

The accounts for December shall be forwarded by the next opportunity.

I have the honor to be,
With respect,
GENTLEMEN,
Your most obedient humble servant.
ROBERT CLIVE.

FORT WILLIAM,
8th January 1757.

Since writing the foregoing, the gentlemen of the Select Committee here, have shewn me a letter they intended to send you, the tenor of which being very different from my sentiments, I have refused to sign it.

P. S.—I have this moment received news of the *Marlborough's* arrival in Ballasore road.

Journal of the military proceedings of the Honb'le Company's troops sent on the expedition to Bengal, Commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Clive.

1756.

December 16th. The troops disembarked from on board the *Kent* and *Tyger* with the seapoys from the *Walpole* at Fulta, where they were joined by the detachment under Major James Killpatrick, when they encamped on a plain to the eastward of the town and were joined the 22nd by the Company's troops landed from the ships *Salisbury* and *Bridgwater;* the whole remained encamped till the 27th when
December 22nd. they embarked again on board the squadron pursuant to a Council of War held on board the *Kent* in order to proceed to Budge-Budge.

December 27th. Captain Barker with 80 of the train and their officers with two field pieces properly completed were embarked in boats and followed the fleet, whilst Kirza Sing with seven companies of sepoys marched overland, keeping the ships in view.

1756.
December 28th. About 3 in the afternoon the military with the artillery and two field pieces landed at Myapore, where they joined the seapoys, and about 6 in the evening marched to the northward in order to throw themselves into the road that leads from Budge Budge to Calcutta, and by that means cut off the enemy's communication with that place as well as prevent their retreat into the Forts to the northward, agreeable to the plan concerted with the Admiral at the Council of War; this was effected with infinite labor and fatigue by forced marches all night, the troops and cannon passing over morasses and deep creeks which retarded their progress greatly.

December 29th. At 8 next morning came into the Calcutta road about one league to the northward of Budge-Budge, passing through a village called Pick Para where we had information a party of the enemy had been the night before. At 9 the grenadier company and all the seapoys were detached towards the Fort, where they found Captain Coote landed with the King's troops from the men-of-war, who had silenced the fire of the Fort and advanced batteries. Another party of the military were detached to the northward to lay in the road leading to Calcutta to watch the motion of the enemy in that quarter. During the time of these detachments being posted, the enemy commanded by Rajah Manick Chund attacked the battalion, appearing in the thickets and inclosures that were in our front out of which they were soon dislodged by some platoons that were sent to the different places in which they appeared: this skirmish lasted about an hour, in which time we had Ensign Kerr and nine private men killed and eight private men wounded. The enemy's loss must have been considerable, as they appeared to be in numbers about 1,800 (horse and foot included), and exposed themselves pretty freely at first, but were much alarmed at the quickness of our firing, and startled at the appearance of the cannon which they could not imagine were transported over the ground we had passed the night before; they are reported to have lost in this action 200 men, four Jemadars, one elephant, and their commander shot through the turban. Colonel Clive dispatching a message for the grenadiers and sepoys to join him, the whole party under Captain Coote with the grenadiers and sepoys joined the battalion, who were then formed upon a plain, the seapoys were detached in pursuit of the enemy who retired with great precipitation, and in their flight many of them perished in a Nulla that they were obliged to pass. About noon the troops as well as King's as

1756. December 29th.

Company's were ordered to march down to the Fort where the men-of-war had silenced the guns, but had made no breach in the wall, further than destroying the parapet, over which the enemy kept firing their musketry, but as the military were under cover of a high bank they did no execution.

At 4 in the afternoon 2 nine-pounders were brought on shore from the ships to be mounted on the advanced battery of the enemy (of which we had possession) in order to make a breach in the curtain nigh the gate, as well as to cover the party that were ordered to storm the place at daybreak, which consisted of the King's troops, the grenadier company and one hundred seamen.

At 8 in the evening a drunken seaman straggling from his command pushed into the Fort, when finding no resistance gave three cheers, and was followed by the whole body without any orders, scarce any being found to oppose them, as the garrison had begun to leave the Fort at sunset. In the confusion Captain Campbell was killed upon one of the bastions (giving orders for posting sentinels upon a magazine that was there) by the seamen or seapoys.

There was found in the Fort 22 pieces of cannon of different calibres, 33 barrels of gun-powder, and some grain.

December 30th.

After spiking up the guns, burning the carriages, and carrying off the gunpowder and grain, the parapets of the Fort and advanced batteries were knocked down, and the houses of the Fort burnt, when the troops under Colonel Clive re-embarked, and the sepoys with Kirza Sing were ordered to proceed over-land by the river side keeping the ships in view.

The fleet proceeded up the river with the troops on board under Colonel Clive, the Field artillery and Train stores being loaded on large boats kept under the stern of the men-of-war; but by one of the boats going ashore she struck upon a wreck and bilged, which damaged some ammunition though little was lost.

1757. 1st January.

At 10 in the morning came in sight of *Tanna Fort* and *Mackwa Tanna* opposite to it. The enemy upon seeing the ships fired a few guns which all fell short, being then out of random shot.

About 2 in the afternoon came a breast of *Tanna Forts* which were found evacuated the enemy retiring as the ships advanced. At 3 the boats of the men-of-war landed with the seamen and took possession of the Fort of Tanna and Aligur, a mud Fort raised opposite, in which were found 31 pieces of cannon of 24, and 13 of a smaller size, some shot, and a small quantity of gunpowder.

2nd January.

At 6 in the morning the Company's troops under command of Colonel Clive landed and joined the seapoys, and about 8 the whole marched with two field pieces towards Summer's gardens where the enemy abondoned their batteries as the fleet and land forces advanced. At 10 the ships came abreast of the Fort where the enemy made resistance for about half-an-hour, but were soon driven from their guns and fled through the Eastern gate before the military or sepoys could come up with them. About 11 a party of the King's forces commanded by Captain Coote with the seamen in the boats landed, and took possession of Fort William, where were found many heavy cannon mounted, with shells, shot, and other garrison stores excepting gunpowder.

3rd January.

The Admiral came ashore and formally delivered the Fort, stores and goods to the Company's representatives. The Company's troops garrison the Fort, and the seapoys are posted at the principal avenues leading to the town.

4th January.

Employed in completing the train ammunition and stores, arranging the garrison stores and mounting cannon upon the ramparts. At 8 at night the King's troops, Company's grenadiers, 200 sepoys with 200 seamen embarked on board the *Bridgwater, King's Fisher Snow* and several sloops with all the boats in the squadron on an expedition against Hughley, the military commanded by Major James Killpatrick, and the seamen by Captain Smith, in order to possess themselves of that place, plunder and destroy it, transporting what goods and effects they found, to this place.

The *Bridgwater* grounded by Perrin's gardens, which has prevented the expedition to Hughley being prosecuted till she is got off.

5th January.

This morning the *Bridgwater* was hove of and proceeded upon the expedition against Hughley. Colonel Clive with the Engineer and several officers reconnoitered the ground nigh Perrins and pitched upon a spot for an encampment lying between Perrins' gardens and Dum-Duma bridge, where the military and seapoys are to encamp in a few days.

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., &c., Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

GENTLEMEN,—The Bombay troops are not yet arrived neither have we heard anything of them; the absence of the *Cumberland* is another disappointment, and by the inclosed returns you will see our present effective strength, now we are all joined and encamped.

Mr. Watson has not yet come to any Resolution about his departure, and I fear it will be difficult for me to leave this place without his concurrence and assistance, however, nothing but the prospect of a speedy and honourable peace will induce him to stay much longer, and you may be assured I shall accompany him without something of the like nature happens so as to give hopes of a peace being soon concluded greatly to the honour and advantage of the Company. Be assured, Gentlemen, I shall follow your instructions, and not draw out the war to length on any consideration whatever.

Since my last dated 8th instant, the *Marlborough* is safely arrived at Calcutta, and all the seapoys and most of the artillery and military stores landed. A few days ago the Admiral heard of the *Cumberland's* arrival at Vizagapatam in a very sickly condition, and immediately ordered Mr. Pocock to Culpee.

The attack upon Hughley has proved very successful as will appear by the inclosed journal. The unlucky accident of the *Bridgwater* grounding in the river, gave time to the inhabitants to carry away all their money and most valuable effects, however, much was burnt and destroyed, and goods estimated at 1½ lack of rupees taken. The Dutch have acted a very unfair part by receiving and secreting the moors effects which they have absolutely refused to give up. Their treatment we must submit to for want of sufficient proof.

The expedition to Dacca is in great forwardness, which is to be carried on by 400 sailors in boats under the command of Captain Speke. The surprise of this place may be of great consequence to the Company's affairs; the success might be rendered more certain, and the consequence more advantageous by a military force; but that does not depend on me, neither would it be prudent to divide our little army when there is reason to expect the Nabob with an army of 40,000 men every day. Our last advices say he is at a place called Nieseray a few leagues beyond Hughley.

I have wrote several letters to the great men of the country, and since the capture of Hughley received two from Juggut Set and Coja Wazeel which I inclose you. It is thought these letters were wrote by the Nabob's order; they were sent to Monsieur Dormand, Governer of Chandannagore, who despatched two of his Council with them and offered at the same time his mediation. Last night came likewise a message from the Dutch that the Nabob was inclineable to treat and that they were likewise desirous to be mediators. The Admiral seems to approve of the offer from the former to which I am greatly averse, not thinking a nation at open war with us, and declared enemy's fit subjects to entrust the Company's concerns with. If a peace be concluded through the French mediation, they will become of consequence by our means and at our expenses. My answer to Juggut Set and Coja Wazeel with the proposals delivered me by the President and Gentlemen of the Select Committee, I inclose you.

Soon after the Gentlemen of the Select Committee addressed you on the power you had invested me with, I received a letter from them likewise requiring me to give up my authority. Inclosed is a copy of it, and likewise my answer which I hope will meet with your approbation. You may be assured I shall act with that moderation towards the gentlemen here, that it must be their own fault if anything detrimental to the Company's affairs should happen through a misunderstanding between them and me. I have hitherto acquiesced in all their proposals and shall continue so to do as long as they lead to the good of the service.

The gentlemen here are of opinion that a neutrality with the French in the Ganges is most for the Company's interest and have applied to Mr. Watson for that purpose; nothing is yet concluded; it is certain Chandernagore has been much strengthened of late under pretence of a war with the English; the French have obtained permission to fortify it; the houses all round it are cleared away and there is a good ditch; their number by the best intelligence amounts to 180 Europeans, volunteers included, and 160 sepoys from the coast.

The ships, boats and forces are come down from Hughley, and there is reason to believe the Nabob's army will soon be here. We have fortified a great tank near Barnagul with high banks which command a very extensive plain, we have likewise erected two batteries, one advanced towards Dum-Dum bridge and another to the river side to keep our communication open with the river; in short we are in a very good condition to act defensibly against his whole army, and when the other forces arrive, hope to finish everything by a decisive stroke.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you that a ditch of 30 feet and 12 deep is finished, an esplanade of 200 yards and a glacis will likewise be completed in five or six days, to the southward the wall of the godown is raised equal to the curtain, and a strong battery will be erected at the southern barrier by the waterside which will flank all that face, another at the northern barrier by the waterside will flank the northern face, to the east a ravelin, which had been begun by the gentlemen of Calcutta, will be made a large and fine battery, which will flank all that face; from the western side there is nothing to fear, being well secured by the river and a strong line of guns. All this work I am positive will be completed in less than ten days. The ditch will be pallisaded and may be either kept wet or dry with great ease. In short, I may assure you, Fort William cannot be taken again by the moors, but by cowardice.

Inclosed go the Paymaster's accounts for December, rolls of the military and a general muster of the troops, &c., on the Madras establishment.

You will perceive that the pay of the troops and lascars has been according to the Madras establishment, reckoning at 350 Arcot rupees for 100 Pagodas which in fact is a very moderate exchange. Major Killpatrick's detachment having been paid in this manner, I found myself under a necessity of continuing the practice. Most of the officers being desirous of receiving their pay on the coast, their names, and the arrears due to them, are noted at the foot of the Paymaster's accounts.

The seapoy's claimed a promise made them in Madras before they engaged to come on this expedition, that they should be paid batta according to the old regulation, and indeed I have some remembrance of it myself, however they seemed to insist so strenuously on their point, that I thought it would have bad consequences not to acquiesce to it.

The King's officers having been always in point of emoluments put on the same footing with the Company's officers to prevent dissatisfaction by which the service might be prejudiced, I ordered batta to be paid them from the time the Company's officers received it.

As the number of volunteers here were large and their batta, which was equal to an ensign's, run very high, I thought it necessary to reduce it to R2 per day.

I omitted to mention in my last that I had contracted for the victualling of the military at $\frac{1}{3}$ of a rupee a man per day, which, considering the present disturbed situation of the country, is not unreasonable.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

ROBERT CLIVE.

Camp on Barnagut Plain,
28th January 1757.

Since writing the above, several occurrences have happened very necessary to acquaint you with.

I have duplicate of your favor of the 2nd and original of the 11th December. I need not repeat how ready I shall be to follow your orders in returning to the coast as soon as possible with all the force that can be spared at present. The Admiral seems determined not to quit the Province till affairs are accommodated, which there seems some prospect of. Yesterday he received a letter from the Nabob, the purport of which was that the Company should be restored to their former possession, and restitution of their effects, provided Mr. Drake be deprived of the management of their affairs. Coja Wazeel's answer to me gives hopes of further advantage as will appear by the inclosed. The Dacca expedition is suspended till the result of our negotiation is better known.

For the sake of dispatch and to prevent confusion it is agreed that all correspondence with the Nabob and his Ministers be carried on jointly by the Admiral and me, and that all the Treaties be signed and ratified by us. You may be assured I shall pay no regard to private interest when such terms as are consistent with the company's interest can only be obtained.

I cannot pretend to say whether the Nabob's intention be really to treat or only to amuse us. By this day's advices his brother has crossed the river with 10,000 men and he himself is said not to be far off. I hope soon to give you a better account in what manner things are likely to end.

The French mediation has been refused and a neutrality in the Ganges offered them.

By Mr. Pocock's letter to the Admiral, dated at Vizagapatam, the 9th January, he seems doubtful whether Monsieur Bussy's intentions are for the northward or southward, or whether he will not continue where he is to keep up his influence with Salabat Jung. His march to the northward (if his design was not against Vizagapatam) gives reason to believe he is coming into this Province.

I remain with respect,
GENTELMEN,
Your most obedient and most humble servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

CAMP,
The 29th January 1757.

To the Hon'ble the Gentlemen of Select Committee at Fort St. George.

GENTLEMEN,—I have just time to acquaint you that yesterday morning we attacked the Nabob's army consisting of 40,000 men and made a prodigious slaughter. The loss on our side is very considerable, 67 military killed and wounded with 100 seapoys, the officers killed, are Captains Bridge and Pye, Captain Gnappe, Lieutenant Rumbold, Ensign Ellis, Kirza Sing wounded, poor Belches is killed; now the consequences of this blow.

The Nabob has decamped with his whole army, has wrote me a letter that he will comply with all our demands except a sum of money for the inhabitants, *viz.*, that he will put us in possession of everything granted by the Royal Phirmaund, liberty to fortify Fort William as we please, and the liberty of a mint, he concludes with desiring me to sign these proposals, and that he will sign and seal them immediately, that he will send me a seerpah, elephant, and jewels.

I am gentlemen,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

CAMP,
The 6th February 1757.

The President lays before the Board the letters he received by the *Success* galley from Admiral Watson as follow:

TO GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ.

DEAR SIR,—I am favored with yours of the 14th November, for which am much obliged to you. I heartily wish our affairs were completed at Bengal that I might leave Fort William, but the situation we are in, notwithstanding our success, makes it highly necessary I should remain here some time longer, as the Nabob would most likely profit by my absence; and all the trouble and fatigue we have had turn out to no other end than showing our resentment without the Company reaping any benefit therefrom.

And now, Sir, give me leave to give you joy of our having taken and destroyed all the moors forts and batteries between this and Fulta, of our being in possession of Fort William, and of our having since taken Hughley, which was effected by the twenty gun ship, sloop, and boats of the squadron, manned and armed in conjunction with the King's troops, Company's grenadiers, and 200 seapoys under the command of Major Killpatrick. For the particulars I must beg leave to refer you to others, who possibly may have more time to write, believe me, I am often interrupted, and therefore I persuade myself you will excuse this hasty scrawl, all I will say the great ships got up here contrary to my expectation, indeed the necessity of making a speedy push made me resolve to try, I accordingly did, and thank God, have succeeded.

I have received the Committee's letter, and cannot help observing, that whatever operations are to be carried on here in the Subah of Bengal for the interest of the Company, in my opinion come under the consideration of this Presidency, who alone are the most competent judges what further can be done for their security, and whether my committing hostilities in the Ganges against the French will be for the Company's interest.

I hope the news you write me with regard to Mr. Byng and West is not true; it comes from Paris, therefore the less to be credited.

I am,

Dear Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

CHARLES WATSON.

"Kent" off Calcutta,
14th January 1757.

A copy of Admiral Watson's letter to Monsorood Mooluck Surajud Dowla Subah of the Provinces of Bengal, Babar and Orixa.

The King my Master (whose name is revered among the monarchs of the world) sent me to these parts with a great fleet to protect the East India Company's trade, rights and privileges. The advantages resulting to the Mogul's Dominions from the extensive commerce carried on by my Master's subjects are too apparent to need enumerating. How great then was my surprise to be informed that you had marched against the said Company's factories with a large army, and forcibly expelled their servants seized and plundered their effects, amounting to a large sum of money, and killed great numbers of the King my Master's subjects.

I am come down to Bengal to re-establish the said Company's servants in their former factories and houses, and hope to find you inclineable to do them that justice, as well as restoring them to their ancient rights and immunities.

As you must be sensible of the benefit of having the English settled in your country, I doubt not you will consent to make them a reasonable satisfaction for the losses and injuries they have sustained; and by that piece of justice put an amicable end to these troubles, and secure the friendship of the King my Master, who is a lover of peace and delights in acts of equity.

What can I say more?

From on board His Brittanick Majesty's ship *Kent*, at Fulta, in the River Hughlly, the 17th December 1756.

Translate of a letter from Nabob Surajud Dowla to Vice-Admiral Watson, dated 23rd January 1757.

You write me that the King your Master sent you into India to protect the Company's settlements, trade, rights and privileges; the instant I received that letter I sent you an answer, but it appears to me that my reply never reached you, for which reason I write again. I must inform you that Roger Drake, the Company's Chief in Bengal, acted contrary to the orders I sent him and encroached on my authority. He gave protection to the King's subjects who absented themselves from the inspection of the Durbar, which practice I forbid, but no purpose. On this I was determined to punish him and accordingly expelled him my country. But it was my inclination to have given the English Company permission to carry on their trade as formerly, had another Chief been sent here. For the good therefore of these Provinces and the inhabitants, I send you this letter, and if you are inclined to re-establish the Company only appoint a Chief, and you may depend upon my giving a currency to their commerce upon the same terms they had heretofore enjoyed. If the English behave themselves like merchants and follow my orders, they may rest assured of my favor, protection and assistance.

At the bottom is wrote in the Nabob's own hand.

If you imagine that by carrying on a war against me you can establish your trade in these dominions you may do as you think fit.

On his seal is engraved The slave of Allumgeer, King of Indostan; The Mighty Conqueror, The Lamp of Riches, Shaw Cowley Cawn, the most valiant among warriors.

A copy of Admiral Watson's letter to Monsorood Moluck Surajud Dowla, Subah of the Provinces of Bengal, Behar and Orixa.

Your letter of the 23rd day of this month I have this day received. It has given me the greater pleasure, as it informs me you had written to me before, a circumstance I am glad to be assured of under your own hand, as the not answering my letter would have been such an affront as I could not have put up with without incurring the displeasure of the King my Master.

You tell me in your letter that the reason of your having expelled the English out of these countries was the bad behaviour of Mr. Drake, the Company's Chief in Bengal. But besides that Princes and Rulers of States not seeing with their own eyes, or hearing with their own ears, are often misinformed, and the truth kept from them by the arts of crafty and wicked men, was it becoming the justice of a Prince to punish all for one man's fault, and to ruin and destroy so many innocent people as had in no way offended, but relying on the faith of the Royal Phirmaund expected protection and security both to their property and lives, instead of oppression and murder which they unhappily found. I say are these acts of justice becoming a Prince? No body will say they are. They then can only have been caused by wicked men who have misrepresented things to you through malice, or for their own private ends. For great Princes delight in acts of justice and in showing mercy. If therefore you are desirous of meriting the fame of a great Prince, and a lover of justice, shew your abhorence of these proceedings by punishing those evil counsellors that advised them, cause satisfaction to be made to the Company and others who have been deprived of their property, and turn by these acts of justice the edge of the sword that is ready to fall upon the heads of your innocent subjects.

If you have any cause of complaint against Mr. Drake, as it is but just the Master should alone have the power over his servant, send your complaints to the Company; and I will answer for it they will give you satisfaction.

The following paragraph was wrote with my own hand, *viz*:—

Although I am a soldier as well as you, I had rather receive satisfaction from your justice, than to be obliged to force it by the distress of your innocent subjects. From on board His Brittanick Majesty's Ship *Kent* off Calcutta in the River Hughley, the 27th January 1757.

Captain King's account of the taking of Hughley.

On the 10th of January 1757 between 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon the troops rendezvouzed on board a moors-ship we had taken possession of in the morning, and lay moored near the *Bridgwater*, and about one mile to the southward of Hughley Fort. At 4 o'clock the *Bridgwater* weighed and dropped up with the flood, till about half-an-hour after, when being opposite to, and less than musket shot from the Fort, she anchored and begun to cannonade, which the enemy smartly returned with both great guns and small arms. And while she was dropping up several single shot were exchanged between the Fort and her; soon after the *Bridgwater* weighed, the *King Fisher* anchored near the same place, in order to cover the troops who accompanied by 70 seamen immediately landed, and possessed themselves of a merchant's house; upon which the *King Fisher* moved upon above the *Bridgwater* and engaged the Fort, and the *Thunder Bomb* who about this time was placed at a proper distance began to bombard the south-east bastion, which had a good effect, and greatly alarmed the moors who were not accustomed to being attacked in that manner.

The troops finding no opposition marched about two hundred yards to another house, and then on towards the Fort, but that being surrounded with houses, no guide to direct us, and our men much exposed to musketry from those houses, it was therefore judged proper to return to the second house before mentioned, and wait till the *Bridgwater* and *King's Fisher* had made a breach, or by means of reconnoitring or taking a prisoner we could get information of the properest place to make an attack. In the meantime the seamen and seapoys were employed setting fire to the town.

The houses we had now made our quarters had a large garden and a good substantial wall to it, with two gates, one towards the Fort, on which we mounted two three-pounders (sent on shore from the *Bridgwater*), the other facing the river, which was guarded by seepoys.

At 8 o'clock a prisoner was brought in and his life promised him, on condition he would guide us to the Fort. At 9 o'clock more seamen were landed which increased the number of them to about 130, soon after Captain Coote of Colonel Aldercon's Regiment, Lieutenant Lutwidge of the *Salisbury* and Lieutenant Hayter of the *King's Fisher*, taking with them the prisoner, went to reconnoitre, and returned again between 10 and 11 o'clock, informing Major Killpatrick, who commanded the Land Forces, that they had examined several parts of the Fort and found it in general so much crowded with houses and black people's huts, that in their opinion the best part for storming was the south-east bastion where the *Bridgwater* had already made a small breach. As soon as this intelligence came, the sealing ladders were sent for, but the vessel they were on board of being some distance down the river and the ebb tide made which must necessarily prevent their arriving soon, the soldiers were ordered to rest on their arms, and permitted to refresh themselves. Major Killpatrick then desired Lieutenant Lutwidge and myself to go on board the *Bridgwater*, consult with Captain Smith, and take a view of the breach from the ship, which having done, and Captain Smith of opinion that storming was practicable, we agreed that the *Bridgwater* and *King's Fisher* should continue a brisk fire at that part of the Fort till they were called to from the shore to cease, and then returned to our quarters, and acquainted the Major with what had passed, who ordered a party of seapoys to be ready to make a false attack towards the south-west part of the Fort. By this time it was past 1 in the morning, and when we got to the breach between 2 and 3, at which time the false attack was made, and the seamen who marched in front with the scaling ladders placed them, and mounted the breach, next to them followed the seapoys, then the King's troops, and after them the Company's. The Fort was entered without much difficulty, though many of the enemy's men were in it and endeavourd to make a stand, but were obliged to retire after a little skirmish in which they wounded several of our people. Here we found 20 guns from 24-pounders downwards with a quantity of ammunition.

Since our taking Hughley we have burnt and destroyed their magazines of corn, which extended two miles, and entirely destroyed the city.

To George Pigot, Esq.

Sir,—Since I had the pleasure of writing to you last, the Nabob, notwithstanding all his specious pretences to accommodate matters in an amicable manner with us, advanced with his army much nearer our camp than we could reasonably expect.

Messrs. Walsh and Scrapton were sent by the Colonel and Company to settle a few preliminaries with the Nabob, when to their great surprise they found him in a house in the skirts of Calcutta. What passed between them, I make no doubt, but Mr. Walsh will by this same opportunity send you a particular account. As soon as he had left the Nabob, he returned to our camp and acquainted the Colonel with the Nabob's situation; the Colonel sent him immediately to me to beg the assistance of 500 seamen, and he would attack his camp the same night, or very early the next morning, seeing the necessity of this I granted his request, the seamen were sent him a few hours after. In the morning of the 5th instant, about 3 o'clock, the Colonel marched from his own camp, and attacked the Nabob's. The inclosed is Captain Warrick's account of the action, who commanded the body of seamen.

Since this on the 6th instant, the Nabob has thought fit to decamp. He is now removed further off the town to a spot of ground a little beyond Dum-

Duma Bridge. His letter to the Colonel is very specious, but whether we can rely on what he professes and promises, has not hitherto proved at all clear. I am afraid we have even yet much reason to doubt his honesty and suspect his designs. His force at present is about 15,000 foot and 10 or 12,000 horse.

The *Cumberland* has not yet joined us, which is an unhappy circumstance in our present situation, more particularly as the squadron is so very unhealthy, and I find myself much out of order with my old complaint. My compliments wait on all freinds at Madras and am with respect, Sir,

"KENT" OFF FORT WILLIAM, *8th February 1757.*

Your most obedient, humble servant,
CHARLES WATSON.

P. S.—The number of seamen killed is 13, and about the same number wounded, of which last is Lieutenant Lutwidge of the *Salisbury*, and some others very dangerously. I don't yet know the Colonel's loss, but by all accounts the enemy have suffered much more.

Captain Warrick's account of the attack on the Nabob's camp.

On the 4th February 1757 at 10 in the evening, I received Admiral Watson's orders to take upon the command of a detachment of sailors to join Colonel Clive in order to drive and force the Nabob out of his camp. At 1 in the morning landed our men a little above Kelsal's Octagon, which were as follows:—180 from the *Kent*, 173 from the *Tyger*, 120 from the *Salisbury*, 29 from the *Bridgwater*, 37 from the *Sloop*, and 30 from the *Indiamen*. In all 569 men. About 2 we joined the Colonel, whose troops were under arms, and ready to march, on which our men were disposed of to guard and attend the train, which consisted of six field pieces and one howitzer. Soon after this we marched off the ground in the following order—the King's troops and Company's grenadiers in the front, the sailors with the train next, the battalion after, and the sepoys in the rear. At 3, the Colonel altered his disposition, and marched the battalion before the train, in this order we marched till 5, when our troops in the van were charged by the enemy's horse in their camp, but did not seem to retard our march, and by the time our rear guard was entered the engagement became general from hedges and bushes on which we played, our artillery defending the right and left of our army, all the way through the camp, in which we found many dead men and horses. Here our men were diverted by killing their bullocks, camels, and what horses were left, in our march, which we continued with great rapidity, driving the enemy before us, till they had lodged themselves in a tope near Meter's gardens behind the hedges; from hence they detached a large body of horse with two cannon to the cross-road of the Bunglow which we soon dislodged with our field pieces after receiving a few shot, and from hence marched into the Fort.

About a mile from the Bunglow one of our field pieces fell into the ditch and broke the axle tree, another was split in the muzzle, and of no use, both which we spiked up and left behind.

To the HON'BLE ROGER DRAKE, ESQ., and the other Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Fort William.

GENTLEMEN,—We received with the most sensible pleasure your favor of the 8th ultimo, advising of your being again in possession of Fort William.

But we confess that we fell at the same time much concern on the perusal of the complaints you make on the subject of the authority with which we thought it necessary to invest Colonel Clive during his present command.

In the letter we had the honour to write you the 13th October last, we mentioned many reasons which induced us to invest Colonel Clive with such authority. We shall here recapitulate those reasons with some concurring circumstances, leaving it then to our Hon'ble Masters to judge of our conduct, in support of which we can at least aver that we were guided in every step by nothing but a hearty zeal for their service.

After struggling with many difficulties in order to put the expedition upon the most advantageous footing as well with regard to the company as private sufferers, we drained all the garrisons upon the coast to strengthen the detachment preparing for Bengal, and to secure to the utmost of our power a speedy success to our designs.

But as we were in daily expectation of war with France, and had reason also from the advices of the Secret Committee to apprehend the appearance of a considrable French fleet, we could by no means resolve to put it out of our own power to defend the certain possessions of the Company on this coast for the hope of uncertain acquisitions in Bengal.

Therefore, in order to provide for both necessities, to make an effort for the re-establishment of the Company's affairs in Bengal, and still to have in our hands a security for their possessions on this coast, in case of need, there was no other method but reserving to ourselves the power of recalling our troops.

You may be, and we believe you are, unacquainted, Gentlemen, with the extent and value of the Company's concern on this coast committed to our charge; but the Court of Directors are well acquainted, and will we doubt not think we consulted for the Company's interest when we gave them so large a share of our attention.

The reason which you quote from our letter of the 13th October for putting it in Colonel Clive's power to deviate from your plan of military operations is not so weak as you endeavour to represent it; the words of our letter are "That no division of opinion might prevent our intentions from being carried into excution." We will shew you, Gentlemen, how much reason we had to fear such a division of opinion, and you shall then be judges if it was not necessary to guard against it. We had before us some letters from Mr. Watts, some from Mr. Holwell, and one from Mr. Becher, each giving a different account of the misfortune, but all agreeing in blaming the conduct of the Governor and Council, or disowning their authority. It is worthy of remark that Messrs. Watts, Becher and Holwell are three of your four gentlemen who have signed your letter now before us, a letter filled with sentiments so different from the opinions given in their separate letters addressed to us.

After thinking we had sufficient reasons to determine us to give Colonel Clive the independent powers before mentioned, the consigning him the money intended for the services of the expendition was a natural consequence. That money was designed only for the payment of the forces who are at an established allowance, and the particulars of the disbursements we are very confident Colonel Clive will lay before you whenever you apply for it. A separate consignment was made by the President and Council here to the President and Council of Bengal.

Having answered to your complaints, we shall acquaint you briefly with the present state of the Company's affairs on this coast and the resolutions we have hereupon made.

Far from being able to supply you with more men we have unguarded a great part of the Company's establishments on the coast by the large detachment already sent you. Our Northern settlements are at the daily mercy of a French army, which by the last advices was within two days' march of Vizagapatam. The Southward Provinces assigned to the Company have suffered continual ravages, and are now involved in such troubles that the preservation of them is doubtful; and our own settlements, not excepting the presidency are barely in a state of defence against the present force of Pondicherry, where luckily only two ships have yet arrived, but if we may credit reports many more are expected.

Therefore, Gentlemen, we think ourselves indispensably obliged to repeat our injunctions to Colonel Clive to return here before the season is too late with as many troops,as he judges can be spared from the defence of Calcutta, and we request that you will yield him all the assistance he may apply to you for on this occasion.

You insist much upon the number of recruits intended for your Presidency which have been detained here for some years past. Had we confined our supply to the remains of those men, or to the number which would probably have remained at this time if they had proceeded to you immediately from Europe we may reasonably say that you would not have had half the number which we sent you under the command of Major Killpatrick and Colonel Clive.

We hope the junction of the troops from Bombay will have given Colonel Clive so much success as to open to you some opportunity of coming to terms with the Nabob, for we are of opinion that neither the Company's force nor cash is sufficient to carry on hostilities in Bengal, and be at the same time so prepared to resist the efforts of the French on this Coast as a war between the two nations requires.

We purpose to send you by the ship *Sally* and the *Betsey* Schooner four hundred seapoys, four hundred barrels of gunpowder, and fifty barrels of musket cartridges, which is all we can possibly spare; and as to every other sort of military stores we left ourselves very bare to find you the supplies which went with Colonel Clive.

We are necessitated to repeat our request that you will transmit us a very particular list of all your guns, gun-carriages, ammunition and stores of all kinds to enable us to assist you as much as may be in our power and leave ourselves equally provided. If you have any guns of 9, 12, or 18-pounders which are not immediately wanted, we shall be glad if they can be sent hither, and should Mr. Watson apply to you to replace the number of shot he may have expended, we request you will answer his demand as far as you possibly can, as we are here barely supplied for the occasions of our own garrison.

We inclose a letter from the Secret Committee for your President, received by His Majesty's Ship *Triton*. It was necessary for us to open it that we might determine whether to send down Captain Brohier immediately. Finding the intentions of the Secret Committee to be to lay a plan for fortifying the whole Town of Calcutta or the principal part of it, which cannot possibly be set about in your present unsettled condition, and Colonel Clive having acquainted us with the works that have been thrown up round Fort William, so as to secure it against the attempts of a country enemy, we resolved to detain Captain Brohier, whose presence is very necessary to finish the works in hand at this place, until we have the pleasure to hear you are in such a state of tranquillity as will enable you to enter upon a proper plan of fortification, at which time we shall direct Captain Brohier to proceed to you by the very first conveyance. The letter from the Secret Committee to your Presidency being in cypher, we have taken it out, and send a written copy in its stead.

The terms made with Captain Finley and Captain Dogan are that they each carry down two hundred seapoys and two hundred barrels of powder, and diet the seapoys on board for three thousand rupees. They have both been fully paid here.

We are,
GENTLEMEN,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
GEORGE PIGOT, &c.,
Committee.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
21st February 1757.

To ROBERT CLIVE, ESQ.

SIR,—Since closing our letter of the 21st, the *Success Galley* has arrived with your advices, dated 28th and 29th January, and 6th instant.

We congratulate you on the success of your attack upon the Nabob's camp; and we wish most sincerely that it may be productive of a good accommodation. It is needless for us to add to what we have said in our last on the necessity of your returning to the Coast as soon as possible. We are sensible it would be difficult if not impossible for you to come away without the assistance of Admiral Watson, but we imagine nothing but the most absolute necessity will determine him to lay the rains in the river.

Admiral Pocock remained at Vizagapatam until the 5th instant, when, having received no orders from Mr. Watson, he sailed for this place and anchored here the 21st. Mr. Bussy's army being very near to Vizagapatam, the Provincial Chief applied to Mr. Pocock for sixty men of the detachment he had on board of Company's troops, which number was accordingly landed, and the remaining 70 we had received on shore here. Mr. Pocock seeing by your letter to us, that it was Mr. Watson's desire he should proceed to Culpee, has resolved to sail for that place in two or three days, but we shall detain the men that are landed here; you are acquainted by our last letter of our necessities, and of the reinforcement arrived at Pondicherry, to which is to be added the loss of nearly 100 sailors, which will go on board the *Cumberland*. We judge besides that the Bombay detachment must undoubtedly have joined you by this time. Your answer to the demands made to you by the Select Committee of Bengal, in their letter of the 18th January, meets with our entire approbation.

We are Sir,
Your most obedient servants,
GEORGE PIGOT, &c., Committee.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
28th February 1757.

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., &c., Gentlemen of the Select Committee of Fort St. George.

HONOURABLE SIR AND SIRS,—I had but just time to write you a very short letter by the *Success Galley* after our attack on the Nabob's camp. The *Delawar* has since sailed for England, and as my advices to the Secret Committee by that ship and the *Syren* Sloop, who sailed some days before, were very full and reached as low as the 22nd February, I take the liberty to refer to them for a particular account of occurrences till that time; for want of assistants to draw out fresh copies, I am obliged to transmit to you my duplicates for England open for your perusal, and request you will afterwards forward them by the *Walpole*.

By the conclusion of these advices, you will observe that I had reason to think that all military operations were at an end in this Province, and that we might return to the Coast, leaving a suitable Force for the defence of the Company's Estate here. Accordingly the 24th February, I addressed Admiral Watson on the subject, copy of which letter and his letter are inclosed. Though the large ships were intended to remain here 'till September, I hoped to prevail on him to let the King's troops proceed on the twenty gun ship and sloop, and as soon as I saw the execution of the Nabob's engagements in some forwardness, I intended to have forwarded with the Grenadier Company, half the train and half the seapoys embarked on the *Marlborough* and *Protector*.

Fresh difficulties have been daily started about the neutrality with the French, which has obliged it to remain unconcluded to this time. However, the Articles were at last drawn up by the Committee and sent to Admiral Watson for his approval, and it was expected that every thing would have been concluded to-day, but in a letter just now received from the Admiral he refuses to agree to any neutrality 'till the articles return ratified from Pondicherry, which I imagine will put a stop to the whole negociatin, and make us think of other measures for settling the affairs of this Province.

It is some time since we have had letters from the Nabob or even from Mr. Watts who attends the Darbar, which leaves me at a loss how far the articles of the Treaty have been fulfilled. As I had last night the pleasure of hearing that the *Momoodah* has already arrived in the river, and that the *Revenge* and *Orixa* with the French prize taken on the Malabar Coast were at Ballasore, I shall always be able to force a compliance from the Nabob, should there be a necessity for it. My concern is that by this uncertainty of his ready performance of all the articles, I can take no measures for the immediate return of part of the troops to the Coast though the season is so far advanced. A few days I think must set the affair in a clear light, and I hope time enough will be left me in this monsoon to dispatch to you whatever men can possibly be spared from hence. Should my hopes of a passage by sea be frustrated, I apprehend a march from Ballasore to Vizagapatam might be effected. In my present situation I can only assure you that I am perfectly sensible of the necessity of our speedy return, and that whatever is practicable with prudence shall not be unattempted on my part.

I have had occasion to make several promotions among the military of which a list is inclosed, and I flatter myself they will meet with your approval and confirmation. Captain Maskelyne and Lieutenant Brooke being in an ill state of health, have leave return to the Coast on this ship.

Enclosed are the Paymaster's accounts for January, also one Bill of Exchange on the Paymaster for the King's Regiment at Fort St. George for A. ₨3,500 advanced to Captain Nicholas Weller for subsistence to the King's troops on this expedition.

The seapoys being desirous of remitting some money for the maintenance of their families on the Coast, I have given bills on the President and Council of Fort St. George for A. ₨6,945 in favor of Purbud Sing of Fort St. David, and three Havildars with two seapoys now take passage on the *Walpole* to see the right distribution of it.

As I brought none of the Husbulhookums with the Phirmaund, I must recommend that some of the copies authenticated by the Codjee be immediately forwarded to the gentlemen here; particularly of those which relate to this Subah, and duplicates of them will be necessary for fear of miscarriage. It is not improbable but some difficulties will arise for a want of them about the villages to be delivered over to us, as they are not particularized in the Phirmaund.

I have the honor to be, with respect,
HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,
Your most obedient and humble Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

CAMP OPPOSITE BARNAGUL,
3rd March 1757.

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., &c., Members of the Select Committee at Madras.

GENTLEMEN,—We have received your letter of the instant per *Sally* and *Betsey* Schooner. The seapoys and gunpowder are landed, for which supply we return you thanks.

In our last letter we advised you that we were upon the point of concluding a neutrality with the French, since which things have taken a different turn, and the Admiral having refused his assent to the neutrality, Chandernagore was attacked by land and water. We have the pleasure to advise you that the Fort surrendered on the 23rd instant, and is now in our possession. As the consequence of this capture may be an attempt upon our settlement by the French as soon as the squadron leaves the river, we are to desire you will request Mr. Brohier to set out for Bengal immediately, and give his directions for such works as he may judge necessary to be executed to put the settlement in a proper posture of defence against an European enemy.

As soon as we can procure an exact return of military stores in garrison we shall transmit it to you. In the meantime we beg you will send us as large supplies of every kind as you can spare, being very deficient here in almost every article, particularly gunpowder, spare muskets, hand grenadoes, mortars and shells.

We are,
GENTLEMEN,
Your most obedient and humble Servants,
ROGER DRAKE, JUNIOR.
ROBERT CLIVE.
JAMES KILLPATRICK.
RICHARD BECHER.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 26th March 1757.

To the HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ., &c., Gentlemen of the Select Committee, Madras.

GENTLEMEN,—Since my dispatch of the 3rd instant, I am favored with your letters of the 21st and 28th February with the duplicates and triplicates per the Ships *Sally* and *Betsey* Schooner.

I acquainted you that the neutrality with the French was not likely to be concluded. I continued encamped on the same ground, and the 7th instant received a letter from the Nabob, desiring me to join him against the Affgans, the van of whose army was attempting an irruption into his province. Accordingly I began my march the next morning, and thinking it a convenient opportunity to prevail on him to suffer us to take Chandernagore, I wrote him word of our having endeavored to conclude a neutrality with the French, but that the Directors and Council were not invested with proper powers for that purpose; that whilst we were engaged at a distance, assisting him against his enemies, the French, joined by Mr. Bussy, might make an attempt on Calcutta; and that therefore I should wait off Chandernagore in hopes of receiving his leave to attack it. Accordingly the 11th I encamped at the back of it within a mile of the Fort, and the 12th the Admiral receiving a letter from the Nabob, the purport of which was, that we might act as we pleased with respect to the French, and having intelligence at the same time that the troops he had sent to their assistance were withdrawn, I summoned the place to surrender that night, but received no answer. The next morning I attacked their western battery which they defended very briskly the whole day, but at night abandoned it. A detachment I sent about noon to the southward, took post in a garden near the Fort, and within some of their batteries. The loss they had sustained at the western battery, and the apprehensions of their retreat being cut off by our detachment, made them likewise desert that night all the works to the southward, among the rest a strong half moon on the river side mounting heavy mettle, and a battery of 3 guns playing down the Channel, both which must have annoyed our ships greatly in their passage up. The batteries to the northward were all quitted at the same time.

On the 19th the King's ships got to the Prussian garden about a mile from the Fort, but it was the 23rd before they attempted to pass the vessels which had been sunk by the enemy opposite to the half moon. They weighed at daybreak, and in less than an hour were abreast of the Fort. A 13 inch mortar of ours with several Cochorns and Royals had played incessantly the whole night, and when the ships weighed we opened two batteries very near the walls, one of 4 pieces of cannon, the other of 3, all four and twenty pounders, and kept a continual discharge of musketry from the adjacent houses. In short, the fire from the ships and the shore was so great that they capitulated in three hours. Copy of the terms granted them is inclosed. You will observe the surrender is made to Admiral Watson, but common report will be just in publishing how great a share the land forces had in this conquest.

There were about 500 Europeans in the Fort, 250 seapoys and 400 topasses, mustize, &c., bearing arms. Of the Europeans about 125 have given their parole of honor, 300 sick and well are prisoners, and the rest were either killed in the siege, or made their escape.

I cannot at present give you an account to what value has been taken. The French Company had no great stock of merchandize remaining, having sold off most of their imports, and even their investment for Europe, to pay off in part the large debts they had contracted. With respect to the Artillery and ammunition we found, I cannot as yet transmit you the Inventory, but they were not indifferently furnished. There is likewise a very fine Marine Arsenal well stocked. In short, nothing could have happened more seasonable for the expeditious re-establishment of Calcutta than the reduction of Chandernagore. It was certainly a large, rich and thriving colony, and the loss of it is an unexpressable blow to the French Company.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you that the Nabob has wrote me a letter of congratulation on our success; and that this enterprise, so far from enraging him, has served to attach him more firmly to us. I am now using all my endeavours to prevail on him to deliver up or suffer us to seize the French and their property at all their out settlements, in order effectually to root them out of this province, if possible.

I should before have mentioned that during the siege I received letters from the Nabob acquainting me that he had accommodated matters with Achmed Shaw, the Affghan, and therefore desiring we would stop our march as he had no further occasion for our assistance. He has fulfilled most of the Articles of the Treaty made with us. The three lack of rupees are already paid and goods and money to a considerable amount delivered up to us at our several subordinates, and I make little doubt but that all his engagements will be duly executed. On the whole, I may affirm to you that the Company's affairs in this Province wear a very prosperous face.

By the *Betsey* Schooner, who called at Bandarmalauka, we have information that Monsieur Bussy had lost 200 Europeans, besides many Blacks in taking some Rajah's Fort in that neighbourhood. If this news be true, he will find it difficult enough to maintain himself in Golcondah without detaching either to the northward or the southward.

The season now is so very far advanced that the voyage to Madras, if to be effected at all, must be long and painful to the troops. I therefore think it most advisable to remain with them till August, by which time all matters may be completely finished in this Kingdom, and I may then return to you with a considerable body of men.

Inclosed is a journal of military operations, with a return of all the forces under my command. You will observe I have been joined not only by the Bombay detachment, but by the four companies of seapoys from the *Betsey* and *Sally*, and the King's troops from the *Cumberland.*

As we have been a good deal unsettled of late, what with marching and the siege and some of my assistants have been indisposed, I must defer sending my February Rolls and Accounts. They shall be forwarded overland with those of March. I propose in a few days striking off all batta, and retrenching every article of expense I possibly can.

The *King Fisher* Sloop is on her dispatch to Europe, by whom I am about to acquaint the Secret Committee of our success, and the happy situation of their affairs in Bengal.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,
GENTLEMEN,
Your most obedient and most humble servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

CAMP NEAR CHANDERNAGORE,
30th March 1757.

March 2nd, 1757. The Grenadier Company and Captain Gnapp's Company were ordered to embark for the Coast.

„ 4th „ The orders for the embarkation of those two companies were countermanded, and this evening they returned to Camp.

„ 5th „ Lieutenant Molitur with 8 sergeants, 8 corporals, 2 drums, and 53 privates besides 43 topasses, in all 114, arrived at Camp from Bombay.

„ 8th „ The Army marched six miles to the northward and continued to march except a halt on the 11th at the French gardens.

„ 12th „ Captain Buchannan with 11 sergeants, 11 corporals, 3 drums, and 61 privates, besides 28 topasses, from Bombay, joined the troops at Camp.

The Army marched and encamped about two miles to the west of Chandernagore, same day the sailors belonging to the *Marlboroug* and doing duty in our train of artillery were ordered to return on board.

„ 13th „ At night the Company's Grenadiers were sent to join the picquet with orders to take possession of the French bounds, and to annoy and alarm the enemy at their out batteries, which accordingly they did, and took possession of a battery to the north-west of Chandernagore Fort, which was abandoned by the French.

March 14th, 1757 Captain (Lieutenant) Edjerton with four sergeants, four corporals, one drum, nine privates and 24 topasses from Bombay arrived at Camp.

At 6 o'clock this morning the declaration of War with France was read in Camp. Immediately after Major Killpatrick with half the troops was ordered to advance to the post which the Grenadiers had taken possession of the night before in sight of this battery; and within a hundred yards of the north-west bastion of the Fort was another, from which the enemy played down an avenue with two field pieces and musketry, but did little execution on account of the too great distance. Soon after some seapoys were ordered to advance under cover on each side the avenue with an intention of flanking the enemy's battery, the King's and Company's Grenadiers followed to sustain them. On perceiving our people approach they began a smart fire, notwithstanding we gained ground, and took possession of some houses within fifty yards. A continual fire was kept up on both sides for a considerable time, in which the enemy lost several men, one sergeant and four Europeans we found dead and buried them. Captain Sin was ordered with two hundred Europeans and some Companies of seapoys to reconnoitre the batteries to the westward and southward of the Town, (though we had no particular information of the enemy's situation that could be depended on, we had been told that they had fortified all the avenues of the town which lead to the Fort), and if possible to take possession of them, but on a nearer approach they were found too well maintained to be directly stormed, so, by the direction of a guide sent him, he marched to the southward, having one volunteer wounded, and about 6 o'clock in the evening lodged himself in the Prussian gardens close to the river side, here when the enemy perceived him, they began a cannonadement from a half moon battery 900 yards southward of the Fort, which continued (without doing any execution) till dark.

The attack on the north-west battery continued likewise till dark, during which time the enemy's volunteers and other Europeans sallied out on an advanced party of the King's Grenadiers, who soon repulsed them with considerable loss; on our side was only two Grenadiers wounded, and Mr. Took, a volunteer, received a shot through his body, of which he soon after died. We had besides several seapoys killed and wounded in this skirmish.

15th March 1757 At night a detachment of the troops were left to maintain the post we got possession of, and the rest returned to Camp.

At day-break we found the enemy had spiked up their guns, abandoned all their out-works, and retired to the Fort; upon which we took possession of them and invested the place by occupying all the houses within a hundred yards of the Fort, and the same evening began to bombard the place from five small mortars and a Cochorn.

16th. This evening the 13-inch mortar began to play upon the Fort, and several small parties by way of alerts advanced under the walls to keep the enemy constantly awake; from this time to the 20th we were employed, whilst the ships were moving up, in erecting one 5 gun Battery of 24 pounders, and one of 3 of the same calibre, bombarding the Fort at the same time, and keeping up a constant fire of musketry all round the place from the tops of the houses.

20th. The ships came to an anchor off the Prussian gardens a mile and a half distant from the Fort, while they sent up boats to sound the pasasage, where the enemy had sunk some vessels to prevent their approach. This day 200 seapoys arrived here from Madras.

22nd. We had now completed our two Batteries, one of which was within a hundred and the other a hundred and eighty yards of the south-east bastion; the 3 gun battery was designed to play on a mud one of theirs close under the walls of the Fort and the southern flank of the north-east bastion, which could chiefly annoy the ships whilst coming up to the attack; our three gun battery had been one of theirs which we had reversed.

The enemy having discovered where we were erecting our five gun battery, and seeing guns mounted on the other, kept a warm fire on both, by which they knocked down many adjacent houses, and by the fall of a verandah two Artillery officers and two Matrosses were wounded, and some lascars and coolies buried in the ruins.

Upon finding that the enemy attempted to dismount the guns of our nearest battery, we immediately threw in a number of sand bags into the embrazures, and kept such a fire of musketry from behind them that the guns of the south-east bastion could no longer play on our battery. At night we completed our batteries, and ready to open them on the ships moving up. At 6 in the evening the King's troops embarked on board the *Squadron*.

23rd. Before daylight all the troops were ordered to the Batteries, and took possession of all houses that overlooked the bastion of the Fort.

At 6 o'clock we perceived the ships under way, and as soon as they came within reach of the enemy's guns we opened both our batteries and began an incessant fire of musketry from all quarters, as well as from a field piece, and a howitzer; this made it very difficult for them to stand to their guns, especially at the mud battery on the water side, from which the ships expected the greatest mischief.

About a quarter before seven the *Tyger* who led came to her station opposite to the eastern face of the north-east bastion, and the *Kent* soon after, opposite to the eastern face of the south-east bastion. The *Salisbury* followed. From this time till a quarter before 9 o'clock the attack continued with the greatest vigor on all sides, when the enemy's defences being almost ruined, as

well by the fire from the ships as the Batteries, on shore, particularly the salient angle of the south-east bastion, which was in a manner entirely destroyed by our five gun Battery, and an appearance of a breach in the eastern faces of both the northern and southern bastions the French hung out a flag of Truce, surrendered the Fort and themselves prisoners of war, which the King's troops landed and took possession of.

24th March 1757 Lieutenant Corneille with the detachment of the King's troops from the *Cumberland* arrived at Chandernagore.

We removed our Camp a mile to the northward of Chandernagore.

25th. Lieutenant Corneille with his party joined us.

Articles of Capitulation at Chandernagore.

Traité de capitulation du Fort d'Orléans de Chandernagore, fait entre Monsieur Watson, Vice Amiral de l'escadre bleue de sa Majesté Britannique et Monsieur Renault, Directeur Général pour la Compagnie des Indes de France, et de Messieurs les Conseilleurs du Conseil.

ARTICLE 1.

Tous les déserteurs auront la vie sauve.

ARTICLE 2.

Tous les officiers de cette garnison seront prisonniers sur leur parole d'honneur, etil leur sera libre d'emporter avec eux tout ce qui leur appartient, et ils pourront se retirer où bon leur semblera, en promettant de ne pas servir contre Sa Majesté Britannique pendant que la présente guerre durera.

ARTICLE 3.

Les soldats de la garnison seront prisonniers de guerre tant que la présente guerre durera et lors de la Paix qui seroit faite entre le Roy de France et le Roy d'Angleterre, ils seront renvoyés à Pondicherry; jusqu' à ce tems là ils seront nourris et entretenus aux dépens de la Compagnie d'Angleterre.

ARTICLE 4.

Les cipayes de la garnison ne seront Prisonniers de Guerre; il leur sera permis au contraire de s'en retourner de la côte dans leur pais.

ARTICLE 5.

L'Etat Major et l'équipage du vaisseau d'Europe de la Compagnie, le *St. Content*, sera renvoyé à Pondicherry par le premier vaisseau Anglois qui partira pour la côte.

ARTICLE 6.

Les R. R. P. P. Jésuites François auront le libre exercise de la Religion Catholique dans la maison qui leur a été assignée lors de la démolition de leur Eglise; les ornemens, l'argenterie, et tout ce qui est à l'usage de l'Eglise, leur sera remis, ainsi que tout ce qui leur appartient.

ARTICLE 7.

Tous les habitants de quelle condition et qualité qu'ils soient, tant Européens que Mesties, Arméniens, Chrétiens, Noirs, Gentils, Maures, et autres, seront mis en possession de leurs maisons, et généralement de tout ce qui se trouvera leur appartenir, tant dans le Fort que dans la colonie.

ARTICLE 8.

Les comptoirs de Cassembuzar, de Dacca, de Patna, de Jongdice, et de Balaçor resteront sous le commandement des chefs quiles dirigent.

ARTICLE 9.

Les Directeurs, Conseilleurs, et employés auront la liberté de se retirer, où bon leur semblera, avec leurs hardes et linge.

Au Fort d'Orléans de Chandernagore le vingt trois Mars, mille sept cent cinquante sept.

P. RENAULT.
MEN. FOURNIER.
T. CAILLOT.
LA PORTERIE.
F. NICOLAS.
PICQUE.

Réponse faite par l'AMIRAL WATSON au nom de la Majesté Britannique aux Propositions faites par le Gouverneur et Conseil des Affaires de la Compagnie de France et Conseil à Chandernagore.

Article 1°—De remettre absolutement les déserteurs.

Article 2°—L'Amiral y consent.

Article 3°—L'Amiral y consent également avec cette différence seulement qu'au lieu d'envoyer les soldats à Pondichery ils seront envoyés à Madras ou en Angleterre suivant que l'Amiral le jugera à propos par la suite et que les étrangers qui ne sont point françois de nation et qui voudrons prendre partie dans le service anglois en auront la liberté.

Article 4°—L'Amiral y consent.

Article 5°—Les officiers et les gens du vaisseau d'Europe seront sur le même pied que les soldats pour être envoyés si tôt qu'il se pourra à Madras ou en Angleterre.

Article 6°—L'Amiral ne peut consentir qu'aucun Européen reside icy, mais que les Jésuites françois aillent à Pondichery avec tous les ornemens de leur Eglise, ou en quel endroit il leur plaira.

Article 7°—A l'égard de cet Article, laissé à l'Amiral qui rendra justice.

Article 8°—A être arrangé entre le Nabob et l'Amiral Watson.

Article 9°—L'Amiral y consent.

L'Amiral attend une réponse à trois heures de l'après midi et que les forces Britanniques puissent prendre possession du Fort à quatre.

Les propositions cy-dessus mentionnées ont été acceptées par le Conseil, en conséquence dequelles nous avons remis la Forteresse de Chandernagore à Monsr. l'Amiral Watson.

Fait au dit lieu de Chandernagore, vingt troizième Mars 1757.

RENAULT, &c.

GENTLEMEN,—I have received your favours of the 24th and 28th February by the *Cumberland*, who arrived in Balasore Road the 7th instant.

I am much obliged to you Gentlemen, for your congratulations on the success of His Majesty's Squadron, which I hope will in some degree be the means of establishing the Company in this Province on better terms than ever they yet have had. The present circumstances of the Nabob makes it appear very probable that he will be greatly attached to the interest of the English; at least thus far may be depended on, so long as our troops can be of use to him no doubt but we may be assured of his friendship and good offices. The alarm he has lately had from the Affghans who is said have taken the Mogul prisoner, and are marching towards these provinces, has made him apply for the assistance of our troops, which he has been promised, provided he will grant his consent to our attacking the French, which some times ago, when it was resolved it should be undertaken, he signified his dislike of such proceedings, and was determined to join with the French against us. However now he wants our assistance, his protection of our enemys begins to decline, and by all that can be learnt from him he seems inclineable to favor the expedition, which is so fair an opening that the neutrality which has been long debated upon here, is now no longer talked of; but this day I have received an appli-

cation from the Committee to assist with the squadron in endeavouring to take and reduce Chandernagore, which service I shall readily undertake the moment the pilots will move the large ships which I expect will be the day after to morrow. The Colonel is already near Chandernagore with the view of harrassing the enemy, and driving away all their coolies which will I suppose in some measure distress them.

In your letter of the 21st February you seem to place some dependence on the directions you have sent to Colonel Clive to return to the Coast before the season is too late with as many troops as can be spared from the defence or Calcutta, and also in the request you have made to me to provide for the security of their passage.

You must be sensible from the present situation of affairs in this Province, it is utterly impossible to part with a man; but if that was not the case, it is already too late for the squadron to get out of the river this season, and as I find I am under a necessity of remaining here now till August or September, I have thought it necessary, in order to get to Bombay as soon as possible, when I leave this place, to send Captain James of the *Revenge* to Madras together with a sketch for all the provisions and stores lodged there for the use of the squadron, and I must desire you'll give Captain James all the assistance you possibly can in shipping them off.

I have the honor to be,
GENTLEMEN,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
CHARLES WATSON.

"KENT" OFF FORT WILLIAM,
12th March 1757.

No. 145 F. D.—3-3-92.—500.

COLONEL CLIVE to COJA WAZEED.

Letter from Colonel Clive to Coja Wazeed.

I have received both your letters, and I do assure you, I look upon you as a good friend and well-wisher to the English, and shall always be glad of an opportunity of doing you all the service in my power.

It was with great concern I heard of your losses at Hughly, which I know must be very considerable, but I do assure you what was done there was not meant against you, but against the City of Hughly in revenge for the ruin of Calcutta. You know very well with what barbarous circumstances the destruction of that place was attended with, and it was resolved before we left Chinapatnam, that that City should fall a sacrifice.

The letter you mention to have wrote to Major Killpatrick neither he or I have seen, so believe it must have miscarried.

You have doubtless heard of what we have done on the Coast of Choromandel, what numerous and powerful Forces we have always had to encounter, and yet we have been constantly successful, which will lead you to consider of the fatal consequences that may attend a War in this Country, especially if the Nabob of Cuttack, the Mahrattas, or any other enemy should join us against the Nabob, which it will be in his power to prevent by listening to our proposals, which I inclose for your perusal, and I hope you will use your interest to induce the Nabob to comply with them, and bring this matter to a happy conclusion. And the Nabob shall find the English his friends (instead of his enemies), ready to join him and fight for him against all the disturbers of his country. I cannot upon many accounts approve the intervention of the French in these affairs. Your integrity and friendship I can rely on, and I beg that you and the Seats will be Mediators between the Nabob and us.

PROPOSALS.

Proposals sent by Col. Clive to Coja Wajeed.

1st.—That the Nabob cause satisfaction to be made to the Company, to the English and all other Inhabitants under their protection, for all the losses they have sustained by the Captures of Calcutta, Cassimbazar, and other out settlements. That he cause restitution to be made of all goods, effects, merchandize, &ca, seized at the different aurunges.

2nd.—That he put the Company in full possession of all the countrys, villages, priviledges, &ca, granted them by the Royal Phirmaund.

3rd.—That he suffer the English to secure and fortify themselves in their own possession in such manner as not to be liable to the like misfortunes in future.

4th.—That he suffer the Company to erect a Mint at Calcutta endowed with same priviledges as the Mint of Chinapatam and Bombay.

Réponse de Coja Wajit aux Messieurs du Conseil de Chandernagore : Scavoir :

Coja Wazeed's answer thereto.

On demande en général que les propositions de paix faites pár Messieurs le Comité Secret soient mises en persan, et signées ou du moins scellées du Sceau du Comité Secret, a fin que le Nabab puisse lui-même voir et examiner ces propositions, et y faire réponse, en les scellant aussi de son sceau, ce qui rendra plus autentiques les Paroles de part et d'autre.

Coja Wazit croit qu'il n'y aura point de difficulté pour le 1er Article.

Il demande qu'on détermine les dedomageurs qu'on prétend, *si on veut* rendre le Nabab responsable du pillage de Calcutta fait par ses troupes. Il lui paroit que si Messrs. du Comité Secret veulent sincérement la paix, ils ne peuvent raisonablement exiger et reclamer que les dommages conformément à l'inventaire qui a été dressé.

Pour la liberté de se fortifier, Coja Wazit pense que cette article pourroit etre accordêê tel *qu'il* est demandé.

Quant à la monnaye, que la Nation anglaise n'ayant jamais eu ce privilège, au Bengal, il n'y a pas bonne grace à le demander. Qu'au surplus, le Nabab ne peut accorder un droit qui dépend du Roy Mogol et qui feroit tort d'ailleurs à la monnaye de ce Prince.

To Robert Clive, Esq.

Letter from the Select Committee at Bengal to Clive.

Sir,—Our letter to the Select Committee of Fort St. George under date the Instant will inform you of our sentiments upon the extraordinary conduct of these Gentlemen in respection to the expedition they have set on foot for the recovery of the Honorable Company's Settlements, Estates, Rights and priviledges in these Provinces. Since the dispatch of those advices we have procured a copy with a perusal of your instructions; Copy of which we think should have been transmitted to us from the Committee.

For the reasons given in that letter supported by a Commission received from the Honorable Company this season (to the tenor of which we think their conduct diametrically opposite), we think it our duty to require us as follows.

That you recede from the independent Powers given you by the Committee of Fort St. George as Commander-in-Chief of their land Forces, and subject yourself to the orders of this Presidency.

That you strictly comply with and follow whatever plans of Military Operations the Select Committee of Fort William may judge proper to point out, and that you do not think of making any Treaty of Peace or accommodation with the Subah without their concurrence and approbation.

That you remain in Bengal with the Troops under your command till Honorable and advantageous terms can be obtained from the Subah, and that when circumstances will admit of your leaving us, the number of men necessary for our defence be submitted to our determination, in which we shall give due attention to the Exigences of the Gentlemen at Fort St. George.

We are further of opinion that your Muster Rolls, Victuallers; Paymasters and Commissaries accounts should be laid before our Committee of Accounts to be inspected and passed agreeable to the Honorable Company's directions.

We must likewise demand the attested copies of the Phirmaund and the orders to the Subahs, and other officers to comply with the tenor of grants, and in the last place we think it necessary to require that such part of the Military Stores as are not immediätely wanted in the Camp, with the cash consigned singly to you, be submitted to our directions.

These, Sir, are the demands we think it our duty to make, and hope to find you (upon mature consideration) inclineable to comply with them. But if contrary to our expectation (and we think in violation of our rights) you are determined to abide by the Independant powers given you by the Select Committee of Fort St. George,

We must not only represent to our Honorable Masters such a refusal on your part as an infringment of the authority they have invested in us, but must exculpate ourselves from any bad consequences attending it, by protesting against you and the said Select Committee.

We are, Sir,
Your most Obet. humble Servants,
WILLIAM WATTS.
J. L. HOLWELL.
ROGER DRAKE, Junr.
RICHARD BECHER.

Fort William,
The 18th January 1757.

To—The Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Bengal.

Gentlemen,

Letter from Col. Clive to the Select Committee at Bengal.

I have received your letter which you were pleased to send me under date the 18th and flattered myself your sentiments so fully expressed in the letter to the Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Fort St. George would have been deemed sufficient without calling upon me to surrender an authority you are sensible I cannot do but to those who entrusted me with it.

What I have had the honor to represent to the Board, I now take an opportunity of repeating in writing, that I do not intend to make use of my power for acting separately from you without you reduce me to the necessity of so doing, but as far as concerns the means of executing those powers you will excuse me, Gentlemen, if I refuse to give them up. I cannot do it without forfeiting the trust reposed in me by the Select Committee of Fort St. George.

It does not become me as an individual to give my opinion, whether the conduct of the Gentlemen of Fort St. George has been faulty or not; that point must be determined by our superiors, to whom a particular account of their proceedings has been transmitted.

I have but one interest, which is that of the Company, and as long as that is kept in view, I do assure you Gentlemen, you shall always find me ready to follow your instructions.

All accounts relative to the Madras Detachment agreeable to the Committee's directions are to be passed by me; copies of all such accounts with the list of stores, &c., I shall do myself the pleasure of sending you in a few days, and if you will supply me with an assistant, I will deliver you copies of the attested copies of the Phirmamd and the order to the Subahs and other Officers to comply with the tenor of those grants, and at my departure from hence the original shall be delivered you likewise.

I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedt. humble Servant,

(Sd.) ROBERT CLIVE.

Camp,
The 20th January 1757.

To George Pigot Esqr

Letter from Admiral Watson.

Dear Sir,—Since I wrote I have received a letter from the Nabob in answer to one I wrote him from Fulta. Inclosed are copys of what has passed between us. I am just finishing my Europe letters, and can now only say I received two days ago letters from the Secret Committee of the 2nd and 11th December 1756.

You will in some measure be able to judge from the substance of the Nabob's letter what we have to depend upon.

I am, dear Sir,

Your most obedt humble Servant,

(Sd.) CHARLES WATSON.

"Kent,"
31st January 1757.

P.S.—I inclose you also Captn King's account of the attack of Hughly, he goes home with my dispatches.

To the Honorable Roger Drake, Esq., and the other Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Fort William.

Letter to the Select Committee at Bengal.

Gentlemen,—By a letter from Colonel Clive dated the 6th February, we have had the pleasure to hear of the success of his attack on the Nabob's camp, We hope that the good effect of this blow was very soon after increased by the junction of the Bombay Detachment and that upon the (?) you have been enabled to obtain reasonable terms of accommodation.

His Majesty's Ship *Cumberland* arrived here the 21st ultimo from Vizagapatam. Mr. Pocock waited there for Mr. Watson's orders until the 5th instant, at which time the French army under command of Mr. Bussy was so near to that settlement that the Provisional Chief thought necessary to apply to Mr. Pocock for 60 of the detachment of the Company's troops on board the *Cumberland*, which were accordingly landed. The other 70 we shall detain here, for as the seamen left here by the squadron in number near one hundred will be embarked on the *Cumberland*, our necessity's for men described in our last letter are become the more pressing, and you will be sufficiently reinforced by the Bombay Detachment.

We are Gentlemen,
Your most obdt. humble Servants,
GEORGE PIGOT, etc.,
Committee.

FORT ST GEORGE ;
The 28th February 1757.

To ROBERT CLIVE, Esq.

To Robert Clive, Esq.

SIR,—We received with the highest satisfaction your letter of the 8th January, your success has indeed been greater than could be expected considering the disappointments you met with.

You have no doubt been informed of the *Cumberland's* putting back to Vizagapatam, where by our last advices, dated the middle of January, she still remained, but we imagine she must have proceeded to Bengal, as she would otherwise have appeared here before now. The junction of the detachment she had on board and the troops which sailed from Bombay the latter end of October will, we hope, have enabled you to give the Nabob such a proof of your force as may incline him to hearken to terms of accommodation.

For the necessity of your returning to the coast as soon as possible with all the troops that can be spared is urged to us by many calls for assistance. Mr Bussy is at the head of a French Army in the neighbourhood of our Northern Settlements which are incapable of the least defence. Mahofor Cawon appears in open rebellion in the Tinivelly Country, where we have sent Captn Caillaud to join Usoop Cawn, but the party he is to carry with him from Trichinopoly is so inconsiderable that we cannot flatter ourselves with the hopes he will be able to do more than preserve the country in our hands. To dispossess them of the Fort of Madura will we fear require a larger force which we are unable to spare, for by the arrival of two ships at Pondicherry, the numbers of the French must exceed ours, and although we have done our endeavors to prevent hostilities in this province, yet we cannot expect the French will remain inactive if they receive any further supplies as it is said they daily expect.

We therefore think it necessary to repeat our former orders that you may return here before the season is too late, leaving as many troops as you judge necessary for the defence of Calcutta.

We hope the Bombay Detachment with the men you found at Bengal and seapoys will suffice for this service, and that you will be able to bring back nearly the same Force as you carrird with you.

We are embarked on the Ship *Sally* and the *Betsy* Schooner four hundred seapoys, in whom are included all those who received the bounty money in October.

We send also four hundred barrils of powder. By the inclosed copy of our letter to the Gentlemen of the Committee at Bengal you will be acquainted with the terms made with the Commanders of those vessels and with reasons for not immediately sending down an Engineer.

We inclose likewise a copy of our letter to Admiral Watson and are, Sir,

Your most obed^{t} Servants,
(S^{d}) GEORGE PIGOT, &^{ca}
Committee.

FORT S^{T} GEORGE;
21st February 1757.

TO CHARLEARS WATSON, ESQ.,

Letter from Col. Clive to Admiral Watson.

SIR,—I should be wanting in my duty to the Governor and Council of Madras if I was not to return you thanks in their names for the emminent service you have rendered the East India Company in this Province, services of such a nature as will be remembered as long as there is an India Company subsisting in England.

The Honorable Peace lately concluded with the Nabob of Bengal ratified in the most firm and sacred manner, and the certainty of a neutrality with the French guaranteed by him, will I make no doubt put the Company's affairs upon the surest footing in these parts, and I am persuaded that attention you have hitherto bestowed on India in general will induce you not to forget the Company's interest on the coast. It is not impossible, Sir, but the dispatches sent by the twenty-gun ship may countermand those lately received at the coast, this seems to be the opinion of the President and Committee at Fort St. George. It is not unlikely but a French squadron may already have arrived there, in such case I must confess I shall be under great concern for the consequences. All the Company's extensive and valuable acquisitions run the risk of being taken from them for the want of your squadron, and the large reinforcement of military sent from the coast for the recovery of the Company's rights and privileges in this kingdom.

Give me leave therefore in the name of the United East India Company to desire the favour of all the assistance you can possibly spare the Gentlemen on the Coast of Coromandel.

My instructions from the President and Committee desire I will apply to you for a passage for some of the returning Force, should you therefore think proper to send any of the Squadron upon the Coast, give me leave to make this application.

CALCUTTA;
The 24th February 1757.

I am, Sir, with the greatest respect,
(Sd.) ROBERT CLIVE.

TO COLONEL CLIVE.

Admiral Watson's answer to Colonel Clive's letter.

SIR,—Being in the midst of my dispatches for Europe when I had the favor of your letter of the 24th instant, and since having been taking up with the Deputies from Chandernagore, I have been prevented doing myself the pleasure of thanking you sooner for the opinion you are pleased to entertain of the services His Majesty's Squadron has been of to the Company's affairs in this province. If my mite has contributed anything to their interest I am well pleased. But I cannot think their affairs here are on so secure a footing yet as to be able to part with any of that force brought here for their relief and protection without its being attended with very ill consequences to the settlement; and from the opinion of everybody here, I believe they would be in as much danger of being driven out again as ever they were, if the squadron and troops were to go out of the river before every Article of the Peace was fulfilled and their fortifications put into a better posture of defence.

The apprehensions you are under for the Company's settlements on the Coast are so very different from the opinion of the Governor and Council at Madras that I cannot help sending you an extract of their letter to me in answer to representations I made them relating to their settlement if the whole squadron should proceed on this expedition and a French squadron arrive in my absence. They say—

"We are obliged for your representations of our situation here, we have "seriously reflected on this subject, we shall leave ourselves with a garrison "sufficient for our ground, and with the rise of our fortifications cannot say "that we fear even an enemy powerful as has been represented to us from "Europe."

From such an opinion founded too after a serious reflection on their situation I can have no great reason to suppose they have need of any assistance from this squadron. However, give me leave to assure you if everything here was settled in the manner you represent, there was also a possibility of getting the large ships ready to go out of the river this season, and I thought my appearance at Madras would be of service to the Company, I would with pleasure proceed there. But considering the time of year and the condition of the squadron, it is now become impossible to get the necessary repairs done to enable them to proceed to the coast, and the imprudence of such a step (was it possible) before the Neutrality was firmly settled with the French would be the height of folly, it being so far from a certainty that such a Treaty will soon be concluded that the Council of Chandernagore are not invested with powers to settle it.

I believe I shall have occasion to send the twenty gun ship and sloop to Madras very soon, if you have any eommands to the coast that I can comply with, I will gladly give their Captains orders accordingly.

I am, Sir,

Your most obdt. humble Servant,

FORT WILLIAM;
The 27th February 1757.

(Sd.) CHARLES WATSON.

Letter from Colonel Clive to the President.

DEAR SIR,—Having just heard that the *Walpole* is still in the River, I am in hopes this will reach you. Since my last the *Cumberland* is arrived, by whom I received your favour of the 1st Instant. I have already acquainted you of the revolution which has happened at Dilly, since which the Nabob writes me, he had received advices that the Afghans are marching towards his Provinces, he has desired me in the strongest terms to join him, and has offered to pay a lack of rupees per month for the maintenance of the Forces, the gentlemen here as well as myself are of opinion the offers are too advantageous to be refused, indeed our late Treaty binds us to assist him, and I need not represent that if this plunderer gets into the Province, there will be an end to the Company's affairs for some time, part of the Nabob's Army are already marched for Patnah, and he himself will leave Muxadavad very soon with the rest.

I began my march on the 8th and am close to Chandernagore, the Nabob testifies some reluctance at our attacking this place, however I am in hopes we shall not leave it behind us. The large ships I believe will move up on Monday. The arrival of the Bombay Troops with those on the *Cumberland* and the Seapoys coming from the Coast will render our force very considerable, and I hope all these disturbances will be at an end time enough for me to be with you in September, before which I had very little hopes of seeing Madras had nothing of this kind happened.

Cazimbuzar Factory with a considerable quantity of goods are restored, and I believe the rest of the Articles will very soon be complied with, the three lacks will be paid in a day or two.

The gentlemen of the Committee will excuse my not writing them having but just time to finish this.

I am, DR PIGOT,

Very afftn friend and humble Servant,

ROBERT CLIVE.

CAMP;
The 11th March 1757.

Letter from Captain Brohier.

To—The Honorable George Pigot, &ca, Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Honorable Sir and Sirs,—

Desiring to carry the boring tools to Bengal and a Master Bricklayer.

As the works necessary to be raised at Bengal will require that the ground be tryed and well piled, I must request you will grant me the liberty to carry with me the boring tools, which were brought out by Mr Robins for that purpose and are now at St. David, as also the engine I have made here, for driving piles.

I must request also the favor of carrying with me either Christopher Macklin, or John Dyer, European Master Bricklayers, as they are accustomed to line out works and will be useful to forward the service there, as I am informed the people at Bengal are entirely unacquainted with our method of working.

I am, Honorable Sir & Sirs,
Your most obedt Humble Servant,
JOHN BROHIER.

Fort St. George;
The 10th May 1757.

Orders given for that purpose.

Agreed that Captain Brohier be provided with the engine for driving piles, and that the boring tools be sent up by the first opportunity from Fort St. David with John Dyer, the Master Bricklayer there, if he can be spared.

* * * * *

(Signed)
GEORGE PIGOT.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
ROBERT PALK.

To—The Honorable George Pigot, Esqr., &ca., Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Madras.

Gentlemen—

* * * * * *

Number of Sepoys to go with ye Army.

The number of Seapoys now appointed to proceed with our troops to the southward are as follow:—From Madras and Poonamalee five hundred, from Carangoly three hundred, and of those with Colonel Forde three hundred.

Jamal Saib to command the seapoys on the expedition.

Agred that Jamal Saib, an old and experienced Subidar, do command the seapoys upon the expedition, and Ordered that he make ready five hundred of the best men, and at the same time examine those that will remain here, and report if any of them are unfit for the service.

* * * * * *

(Signed)
GEORGE PIGOT.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
ROBERT PALK.

Thursday 16th June.

AT A COMMITTEE PRESENT:

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQ^{R}, *Governor, President.*

HENRY POWNEY.

ROBERT ORME.

ROBERT PALK.

* * * * * *

The Sel Com: at Bengal Admiral Watson and Col. Clive to be advised.

of the raising of the Siege of Triechy.

of the loss of Ingeram and Bandaroulka and our apprehensions with regard to Vizagapatam.

Agreed that letters be wrote by that opportunity to the Gentlemen by the Select Committee there, Admiral Watson and Colonel Clive, acquainting them of the French having raised the siege of Trichenopoly upon Captain Callaud's succeeding in throwing himself into the Fort, of the news we have lately rceeived that our factories at Ingerman and Maddepollam are taken by the French, and of our apprehensions that Vizagapatam may undergo the same fate should Mon^{sr} Bussy bend his force that way.

Means for the security of Vizagapatam considered.

No reinforcement can be spared from hence Early return of Col. Clive with troops from Bengal recommended and to stop at Vizagapatam in the passage if necessary.

And as Vizagapatam is a settlement of very considerable value to our Honorable Masters as well as for the quantity of cloth there provided as in consideration of its being now the only inlet to the Northern Countries left in our possession, we are of opinion that it is necessary to secure it by all means possible against the attack of the enemy. But as the superiority of the French in this Province, and the unfinished state of our fortifications will by no means suffer us to weaken ourselves by any detachments from hence, and as vessels have frequently been known to leave Bengal early in July and make their passage to Vizagapatam, it is Agreed to write to Colonel Clive, directing him to embark, as many of the men which are destined to be returned to the Coast, as he conveniently can, on board such vessels as he may be able with the assistance of Admiral Watson and the Select Committee to procure, and despatch them early in July with directions to land at Vizagapatam, if the state of that settlement should render it necessary, recommending at the same time that he leave Bengal himself, with the rest of the men that are to be returned, so early that he may be able to call at Vizagapatam on his way hither, and give such assistance as he may see necessary to the Company's affairs there. To Admiral Watson that we depend on his giving Colonel Clive for the service beforementioned the assistance of the twenty gun ship or any other part of the Squadron that may be ready for the sea.

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SIGNED
GEORGE PIGOT.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
ROBERT PALK.

Thursday, 2nd June.

AT A COMMITTEE

PRESENT:—

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQR, *Governor, President.*

HENRY POWNEY.

ROBERT ORME.

ROBERT PALK.

* * * * * *

In order to prevent the sequel of a Paper War of which I have already but too much experienced, I shall come to the matter in question, which is that I can't comply with your request in remaining at Madras whilst his Majesty's troops are in the field, as I am very sure in so doing, I should incur His Majesty's displeasure, besides I have great reason to believe you intend the Command of the Army for Colonel Lawrence. I have as well as you, Gentlemen, a great opinion of his military capacity, this joined with his knowledge of the situation of this country I believe would be of infinite service if he joined us. Any military operation you have to propose, I shall, according to my instructions, assemble my Council of War, and if their opinion should not be agreeable to your inclinations, I shall be sorry for it, but as I must believe them better Judges in military affairs shall be determined by them.

I am,

GENTLEMEN,

Your most obedt humble Servant,

(Sd.) JOHN ADLERCRON.

CAMP AT CHANGLEPUT,
June 21st 1757.

P. S.—At my arrival last night, heard that the French Army had marched from Cutremaloor to Wondivash.

Resolves to proceed to camp notwithsng our representations.

As Colonel Adlercron has proceeded to Camp, notwithstanding the Representations set forth in our letter to him of the 20th Instant, it is Agreed not to urge these arguments further at present, lest the Publick Service should thereby be interrupted, but is resolved when he returns to Madras to give him personally such an explanation of our reasons in support of what we desired in that letter, as we doubt not will convince him that our sole motive was the good of the Service.

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Signed { STRINGER LAWRENCE.
ALEXANDER WYNCH.

Thursday, 28th June.

AT A COMMITTEE.

PRESENT.

GEORGE PIGOT, ESQR. *Governor, President.*

HENRY POWNEY.

ROBERT ORME.

ROBERT PALK.

* * * * * * *

An alliance with the King of Travancore might prove of much advantage to the Company's affairs and secure the peace of those parts of the Tinnevelly

Letter to the King of Travancore.

Desiring a statement of what has occurred relating to the Districts and the affair shall be adjusted.

Captn. Caillaud recommended to promote a good understanding with that Prince.

country adjacent to his limits, and as it appears by his above letter to the President that he is not averse to adjusting his claims in some districts of that country, It is Agreed that a letter be wrote to the King of Travancore acquainting him that if he will send us a fair statement of what has happened to relation to them, we will compare it with the accounts we receive from the Nabob, and settle the affair in an amicable manner. In the meantime that we desire nothing may interrupt his old friendship with the English, and that until affairs are settled, the countries may remain as they are, to which purpose he should send orders to his Officers to cease all hostilities as we have done on our part. Ordered accordingly that a copy of the King of Travancore's letter to the President and his answer be transmitted to Captain Caillaud, that he may do whatever he shall see necessary to establish good understanding between us and that Prince.

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(Sd.) ALEX^{R} WYNCH.

Exd.—P. K. B.

Govt. of India Central Printing Office.—No. 890 F. D.—3-2-93.—15.

31st Jany 1757.

To John Clevland Esqr.

Sir,

Three days after the date of my last letter of the 13th Octr 1756, I sailed from Madrass, with his Majesty's ships *Kent*, *Cumberland*, *Tyger*, *Salisbury* and *Bridgwater*, *Marlborough* and *Walpole* Indiamen and *Blaze* Fire ship, which last seeing, I should have no occasion for, I sent to Bombay with directions for her being put out of Commission and sold. I endeavour'd to make the best of my way to Ballasore Road, but meeting with trifling winds, and strong Southerly Currents, we were three weeks driving to the Southwd, till we got into the Lattitude of 6° 30′ No and then had not made more than four Degrees Easting. This had the appearance of having a long passage, which with the number of men we had on board might have proved a very unfortunate circumstance.

By our getting to the Eastward as much as possible, we began to meet with the North East Trade, which not being set in, proved variable and squally, tho' never blowing enough to expect any bad consequence from it, but I found our ships were in no condition to beat against a Monsoon. The *Salisbury* (which I look'd upon to be the least defective of any ship in the squadron) on the 13th Novr made the Signal of distress, having sprung a leak in her wooden ends, and made so much water, that after four hours pumping, it had gain'd something upon them. I sent her all the assistance in my power, and stopt her leak as much as possible, but even then she made upwards of four feet every hour, which oblig'd her to carry an easy sail, whereby our passage was greatly retarded. This unlucky accident made me doubtful whether the Expedition would not be overset, as, had she been oblig'd to bear away, another ship must have gone with her, and that would have taken so much force from the Squadron, that I should have esteemed the remaining part proceeding to be of very little or no service. However, her leak not increasing, we all continu'd together, and on the 2d Decemr: about nine o'clock at night, the *Cumberland* unexpectedly struck upon a shoal off Point Palmiras, but luckily got off again without receiving any damage. She immediately made the signal for danger, and soon after, to anchor, which I repeated, and came to in eight fathoms. The next morning we found the *Kent* within the Point, the rest of the ships were to Leeward among the shoals, however they all got clear of them that evening, but were not able to get round the Point, except the *Tyger* and *Walpole*. On the 5th of December, I anchor'd in Ballasore Road, and the *Tyger* and *Walpole* soon after. There I met with Messrs Watts and Beecher, deputed to me from the Governor and Council, to acquaint me with the state of their affairs, which were in so bad a situation as to require immediate assistance. I consulted the Pilots about carrying the *Kent* and *Tyger* over the Braces, who were of opinion it might be done with safety during the Springs, and, if I would permit them, they would take charge of the ships up the River to Fulta. The tides serving I weigh'd the 8th Decemr and proceeded over the Braces. The 15th I arriv'd at Fulta, where the Governor and Council and late Inhabitants of Calcutta had retired to since the loss of Fort William and all their other settlements, with as many of their ships and vessels as had escaped falling into the hands of the Moors. I also found there the *Kingsfisher*, who I dispatch'd from Madrass, some time before the Squadron sail'd, with advices to Mr Drake of my preparing to come to his assistance.

After having consulted with the Governor and Council, I saw there was a necessity for a stronger force than the fifty gun ship and frigates to proceed up the River, as the enemy, not thinking the forts of Tanna and Busbudgia to be a sufficient defence, were raising new works on the banks of the River, which they had been employed about for some time. Hearing this, I thought it most adviseable to proceed as soon as possible, but the Springs then coming on, the Pilots would not take charge of the ships till they were over. In the mean time I wrote to the Nabob, a copy of which I herewith inclose, and made such preparations as were necessary for my proceeding.

By the 25th the tides began to slacken, when the *Bridgwater* joind me, and the next day the *Salisbury*. The Pilots then acquainting me of it's being a proper time to move up, and having receiv'd no answer from the Nabob, I gave orders for embarking the troops the 28th, and sail'd the same day with the *Kent*, *Tyger*, *Salisbury*, *Bridgwater* and *Kingfisher* Sloop. The next afternoon Coll Clive was landed in order to march to Busbudgia to make an attack by land, at the same time the Squadron was to appear before the place. The 30th about eight o'clock in the morning the Squadron anchor'd and began to cannonade, at half past eight I order'd the King's troops to land to support the Colonel, who, from the reports I receiv'd, I had great reason to believe was engag'd with the enemy. A little before nine they joind him, but the action was then over, the enemy having retired with loss. We soon after heard they march back with great haste to Calcutta, But the Governor of Busbudgia continued in the fort and defended it. The Colonel was ill provided with cannon, and all sorts of Military stores, and was unacquainted with the situation of the enemy, having taken no prisoners to inform him, or indeed could get any intelligence to be depended upon. The Moors in their usual way fir'd from behind the bushes, it was therefore impossible to know exactly when they retreated, but by accounts they certainly had encamp'd not far off, which they broke up with the utmost expedition: In this skirmish were kill'd an Ensign and eleven Private men, and about twenty slightly wounded.

The ships soon silenced the enemy's fire; but we had occasion for most part of the day to fire some guns to keep them from firing on our troops who were lodg'd near their walls with an intention to storm before night; but that being put off, at seven o'clock in the evening I orderd about a hundred seamen on shore under the command of Captn King, and at half an hour after eight the body of the fort was on fire, and immediately after I receiv'd the agreeable news of the place being our own. The moment the seamen, soldiers, and seapoys enter'd, the few people who were left in the fort ran out, and we were so unlucky as not to take a man. Captain Campbell one of the Company's Captains lost his life after he was in the fort, and about four of the Kings soldiers were wounded while they lay under the walls. This fort was extremely well situated for defence, and had the advantage of a wet ditch round it, but was badly provided with cannon, as we found only eighteen guns, from twenty four pounders downwds, and about forty barrels of powder with ball in proportion.

On the 1st Jany the *Kent* and *Tyger* anchord between Tanna Fort and a battery opposite, both which places the enemy abandon'd as the ships approach'd. In these we found about forty guns, some twenty four pounders, and all mounted on good carriages, most of them the Company's. We also found some powder and ball.

In the night, I sent the boats mann'd and arm'd up the river, to set fire to a ship and some vessels that lay under a fort, which was executed without opposition. That was a necessary piece of service, as I heard they were fill'd with combustibles in order to be set on fire when the ebb made, to burn our ships.

The next morning early, agreeable to the Colonel's request, I landed the Company's troops, who immediately began their march to Calcutta. The *Kent* and *Tyger* soon after weigh'd and proceeded up the River together with the twenty gun ship and sloop, which last had directions when I should anchor off Calcutta, to pass me and the *Tyger*, and anchor above, where they saw they could most annoy the enemy. As there was no necessity for more than two ships at Calcutta, and the keeping Tanna fort was of some consequence, I thought proper to leave the *Salisbury* there, as a guard ship to prevent the enemy from regaining it and the battery opposite.

The *Tyger* being the leading ship, at forty minutes after nine o'clock the enemy began to fire upon her from their batteries below Calcutta, which they deserted as we approach'd. At twenty minutes past ten, the *Tyger* anchor'd abreast the line of guns at Calcutta, at half an hour after ten the *Kent* anchor'd, and both ships made a very warm fire, in so much that the enemy were soon drove from their guns and presently after ran out of the fort. Captn Coote with the King's troops and an officer from the *Kent* enter'd the fort a little before eleven, but the flight of the enemy was so sudden that only two or three poor ignorant fellows were taken. I garrison'd the place that day with the King's troops and appointed Captn Coote to take the command. The next day I deliver'd it up to the Company's representatives with all the effects found within their bounds. Here we found four mortars ninety one guns of different sizes and a considerable quantity of all kinds of ammunition: We have suffered very little from the enemy in our masts, yards and rigging, and have lost very few. The inclos'd is an abstract of all the men kill'd and wounded at the several attacks.

The Governor and Council being now in possession of their principal settlement, determin'd for the violencies they had received from the Nabob and his subjects, to declare war against him, and to publish the same throughout all the country, and wrote me a letter desiring I would do the same in the name of His Majesty, which I accordingly did. A copy of their letter and my Declaration I herewith inclose. The misfortune of neither the *Cumberland* nor *Marlborough* being arriv'd, made it quite impossible for any enterprise to be undertaken by land, and it was absolutely necessary to push the enemy before they had time to recover from their pannick. Accordingly an expedition was propos'd against Hughley, to be executed by the twenty gun ship and sloop, the boats of the squadron mann'd and arm'd, assisted by all the King's troops amounting to one hundred and seventy, the Company's Grenadiers and two hundred seapoys, which were to be landed under the command of Major Killpatrick. Several sloops were procur'd to embark them, and there being a proper vessel for carrying two mortars, which being judg'd of great consequence to the success of the expedition, the Committee offered her to go upon this service, if I would appoint a proper officer to take the command of her. I accordingly gave my first lieutenant, Mr Warrick a commission as Captain, and appointed a Lieutenant and Surgeon to her, which I hope their Lordships will approve of.

Everything being prepared the troops were embark'd the 5th inst and all proceeded up the river under the command of Captn Smith of his Majs Ship *Bridgwater*, who by not having a good Pilot grounded before he got two leagues above me, where he lay forty eight hours in great danger, but got off without receiving much damage, and by the assistance of a Dutch Pilot, who he took on board in his passage up, he proceeded agreeable to his orders.

On the 11th I receiv'd the agreeable news of our being in possession of Hughley. For the particulars of the attack, I beg leave to refer their Lordships to the inclos'd account of Captn King's, who commanded party of seamen ashore, and by whom I now take the opportunity of sending my dispatches, and beg leave to recommend him to their Lordships favour.

The *Bridgwater's* grounding in going up, occasioned great delay, by which means the enemy had time to carry off most of their effects, and the Dutch did not scruple to receive them under their protection, as well as several of their principal Inhabitants. I represented this proceeding to Mr Bisdom the Chief of Chincura, to which I receiv'd nothing but evasive and equivocal answers. As I was extremely unwilling to have a misunderstanding with any Europian power, I sent my captain up to him, with a letter of credit in the usual form, to explain such matters as could not so readily be settled by letter. To this he made me no reply, neither did he make any answer to two letters wrote to him from Capt Speke while at at Chincura, and by my authority, and one from Captn Smith.

Their behaviour altogether has been so very partial in favour of our enemy, that I should do an injustice to myself in passing it over without taking some notice of it.

After I receiv'd Captain King's account of the attack upon the Fort, I had for several days news brought me of our progress in burning and destroying the City of Hughley, also of setting fire to their granaries, and store houses of salt, which were situated on the banks of each side the river, and extended near two miles in length. The destroying these granaries will be of great prejudice to the Nabob, as they contain'd a store for the subsistance of his army while it is in this part of the country.

This service being done, and nothing else to undertake either with the ships or boats, I orderd Capt Smith and the sloop to come down and join me.

On the 12th inst I receiv'd His Majesty's Declaration of War against the French King, which was transmitted from the Directors of the East India Company by land to Bussero, from thence to Governor Bourchier at Bombay, who acquaints me there came by the same conveyance publick letters for me, which I hear he has sent by one of the three ships coming here from thence with Five hundred troops, but neither of them are yet arrived, when they do, they will be a very considerable reinforcement to the little army here, and I hope I shall see them before I am oblig'd to leave the river.

Notwithstanding our success, the Company's affairs here, are yet on a very precarious footing, and nothing but a lasting advantageous peace can possibly free them from ruin. From this reflection, I wrote a letter to the Committee, offering proposals relating to our couduct with the French, a Copy of which I herewith inclose, with an extract of their answer, which I hope will justify me, if I enter into a neutrality with the French in the Ganges as it was observ'd last war, and especially as we are now already embroil'd with the country government, who would be too powerful for us by land if joind by the French, and particularly so when I leave the River, therefore I think a neutrality with the French must be observed in the Ganges. If it could be with a league offensive and defensive against the Nabob, no doubt but he might be brought to terms the sooner; and this I propos'd to the French soon after the taking Calcutta, upon their application to me to enter into a simple neutrality, but they excus'd themselves as they were not in a condition to join with us against the Nabob, whose resentment they much fear'd.

On the 20th Jañy the *Marlborough* arrived here with between three and four hundred seapoys and all the Field Train. About the same time I receiv'd a letter from Mr Pocock acquainting me that he had us'd his utmost efforts to get round point Palmiras, but his provisions and water being almost expended, and his people very sickly, he was at last oblig'd to bear up for Vizakapatam, where he arriv'd the 14th Decemr. As there are near three hundred troops on bd the *Cumberland*, I thought it proper to send Mr Pocock orders to make the best of his way to Bengal, and proceed up the River as high as Kedgaree, and to disembark the troops without loss of time, and send them to Calcutta, it being at this critical juncture of the utmost importance our land force should be augmented.

A few days ago an application was made to both the French and Dutch, from two of the principal people about the Nabob's Court, with views of bringing about a peace; and tho' it did not come immediately from the Nabob himself, yet it is supposed, it was done by his authority. By the opportunity of the *Delawar* I may be able to acquaint their Lordships what will be the issue of this seeming inclination on their side for peace: But since this application was made, I have receiv'd a letter from the Nabob, a copy of which I herewith inclose together with my answer. What will be the event I cant pretend to say, but I am afraid I shall be under the necessity of continuing longer here than I would chuse to do, as I must not think of leaving them till such time they are in a state of security against any insults from the country power; tho' I am afraid my stay will be attended with very disagreeable, if not bad consequences to the squadron, all our ships being in a bad condition, and our men very sickly. We have already lost more since we have been in the River than in a whole year before. This is but a melancholly circumstance in a French War considering how short the ships are of their proper complement, and the impossibility of getting men here.

Inclos'd I send you the state of the squadron and am

Sir

Your most obedient humble servant

CHA^s WATSON.

KENT OFF CALCUTTA

IN THE RIVER HUGHLEY

31^st Jañy 1757.

[Endorsed.] Adm^l [Wa]tson.

CAPTAIN KING'S Account of the taking Hughley

On the 10^th January 1757 between three and four o'clock in the afternoon, the troops rendezvous'd on board a Moors ship we had taken possession of in the morning and lay moor'd near the *Bridgwater*, and about one mile to the southward of Hughley Fort. At 4 the *Bridgwater* weigh'd and drop'd up with the flood till about half an hour after, when being opposite to, and less than musket shot from the Fort, She anchor'd & began to cannonade, which the enemy smartly return'd with both great guns & small arms: and while she was dropping up several single shot were exchanged between the fort and her. Soon after the *Bridgwater* weigh'd the *Kingsfisher* anchor'd near the same place, in order to cover the troops, who accompanied by 70 seamen immediately landed, and possessed themselves of a merchants house; upon which the *Kingsfisher* moved up above the *Bridgwater* and engaged the fort; and the *Thunder* Bomb, who about this time was placed at a proper distance, began to bombard the S. E^t. Bastion which had a good effect, and greatly alarm'd the Moors, who were not accustom'd to being attack'd in that manner.

The troops finding no opposition, march'd about two hundred yards to another house, and then on towards the fort, but that being surrounded with houses, no guide to direct us, and our men much exposed to muskettry from those houses, it was therefore judged proper to return to the second house before mention'd, and wait till the *Bridgwater* and *Kingsfisher* had made a Breach, or by means of reconoitring, or taking a prisoner, we could get certain information of the properest place to make an attack: in the meantime the seamen & seapois were employ'd setting fire to the town.

The house we had now made our quarters had a large garden, and a good substantial wall round it, with two gates, one towards the fort, at which we mounted two three pounders, (sent ashore from the *Bridgwater*) the other facing the river which was guarded by Seapois.

At 8 o'clock a prisoner was brought in & his life promised him on condition he would guide us to the fort. At 9 o'clock more seamen were landed which increased the number of them to about 130. Soon after, Captain Coote of Colonel Adlercron's Regiment, Lieutenant Lutwidge of the *Salisbury*, & Lieut^t Hayter of the *Kingsfisher* taking with them the prisoner, went to reconoitre, and returned again between 10 & 11 o'clock informing Major Killpatrick, who commanded the land forces, that they had examin'd several parts of the fort, and found it in general so much crowded with houses & black peoples hutts, that in their opinion the best part for storming was the S. E^t Bastion, where the *Bridgwater* had already made a small breach. As soon as this intelligence came, the scaling ladders were sent for, but the vessel they were on board of, being some distance down the Rive^r, and the ebb tide made, which must necessarily prevent their arriving soon, the soldiers were order'd to rest on their arms, & permitted to refresh themselves. Major Killpatrick then desir'd Lieutenant Lutwidge and myself to go on board the *Bridgwater* consult with Captain Smith, and take a view of the breach from the ship, which having done, and Captain Smith joining in opinion that storming was practicable, We agreed that the *Bridgwater* & *Kingsfisher* should continue a brisk fire at that part of the fort, till they were call'd to from the shore to cease; and then, return'd to our quarters, and acquainted the Major with what had passed, who order'd a party of seapois to be ready to make a false attack, towards the S. W^t^ part of the fort. By this time it was past one in the morning, and when we got to the breach between two and three; at which time the false attack was made, and the seamen who marched in front with the ladders, placed them and mounted the breach, next to them the seapois, then the King's troops, and after them the companys.

The fort was enterd without much difficulty tho' many of the enemies men were in it, who endeavour'd to make a stand, but were obliged to retire, after a little skirmish, in which they wounded several of our people.

Here we found 20 guns from 24 pounders downwards with a quantity of ammunition.

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31 March 1757 Rec & read 11th Jul 1758.

SIR,

Soon after the date of my last letter of 24th Feb^y^ dispatches arrived from M^r^ Watts, the second in council of Calcutta, who is attending the Nabob's Court at Muxàdavad. By his letters the Nabob appear'd not so strongly attach'd to the French interest as we had reason to apprehend when I address'd you last. No pains was spared to improve this alteration from the resolution he had before taken, and the circumstance of some troubles approaching the northern part of his kingdom by the Afghans, who it was said had chose a person named Abdallah to be their general, and that he had taken Delly and made the Mogul prisoner, and had coin'd money in his own name, the apprehensions the Nabob was under from this sudden revolution in the Empire made him very sollicitous to be reinforced by our troops, who he offered great rewards to for their service. But I represented to him how imprudent it would be to send all our force from our garrison, to march with him a considerable distance into the country, and leave behind us our enemies the French, who agreeable to his desire, I had been endeavouring to enter into a neutrality with, but upon discovering, (when the business was near concluded), that they were not vested with proper powers to make such a treaty, I declined entering any farther into a negotiation of that nature with people who had no authority to do it; and that I made no doubt, he perceived the uprightness of my intention in endeavouring to comply with what he had recommended relating to the business of a neutrality, and that he was too reasonable to expect I could assist him with the forces he required till such time we had reduced the French, so as to leave no enemy behind us. This wrought such an effect on the Nabob, that tho' he could not be brought to give his full consent in writing to our attacking the French, yet he explained his sense of the matter sufficient to be understood he would not interfere, or know of any thing done between us and them.

As I had not totally given over the thoughts of attacking Chandernagor, I kept the squadron in readiness to proceed up the River whenever the Pilots would take charge of the ships; and upon receiving such favourable hints from the Nabob I fix'd the time for sailing. Before that came, the Bombay troops arriv'd at Calcutta, amounting to three hundred men and march'd directly to the camp to join Col^l^ Clive, who by this reinforcement had with him 700 Europeans and 1,600 Blacks. Immediately after he was join'd by the Bombay Detachment, he march'd to Chandernagore, where he had not been long, before he took possession of all the enemy's out-posts, except one redoubt, situated between the River side and the walls of the fort, wherein were mounted eight cannon, 24 pound^rs^, four of which pointed down the river. Two days before I sailed, an officer of the *Cumberland* brought me letters from M^r^ Pocock, acquainting me of his arrival at Ballasore Road. Had this happened a few days sooner, the reinforcement of her seamen, & the troops she had on board would have been a very considerable advantage to us, but there was no waiting three or four days without losing the opportunity of the Neapes, and before the proper time of tides would have offer'd again great changes might have happened by the artful insinuations of the French at the Nabob's court. I resolv'd therefore to proceed with the few men I had, and sail'd the 15th inst with the *Kent, Tyger* and *Salisbury.* The twenty gun ship and sloop, I order'd up the River some days before to cover the boats attending on the camp. On the 18th I anchor'd about two miles below Chandenagor and observ'd the French had done every thing in their power to obstruct our passage up, by sinking two ships, a ketch, a snow, a hulk & a vessel without masts all directly in the channel within gun shot of the fort, and laying two booms moored with chains across the River. This caus'd some delay, till the booms were cut adrift, and I could discover by sounding in the night a proper channel to pass thro', which the Pilots found out, without being at the trouble of weighing any of the vessels, as I expected we should have been oblig'd to do; but before this could be sufficiently known to venture thro' Mr Pocock came up to me in his boat, and hoisted his flag on board the *Tyger.* On the 23d at six o'clock in the morning, I weigh'd and sail'd up in the following order the *Tyger, Kent* and *Salisbury.* At ten minutes after six the enemy began to fire from the redoubt, which was abandoned as soon as the leading ship got a breast of it. At three quarters after six, the ships were placed, when I caus'd the signal to be made for engaging, which continu'd very briskly on both sides till a quarter past nine. The enemy then waved over their walls a flag of truce, and desir'd to capitulate. I have inclosed a copy of the articles they propos'd with my answers, which the Governor and Council agreed to and signed within the time prescribed them. In consequence of which I sent Captn Latham (of the *Tyger*) ashore to receive the keys and take possession of the fort. I beg leave to congratulate their Lordships on the success of His Majesty's arms on this occasion.

Coll Clive march'd in with the King's troops about five in the afternoon. There were in the fort 1,200 men of which were 500 Europeans and 700 Blacks, 183 pieces of cannon from 24 prs downwards, three small mortars, and a considerable quantity of ammunition.

Besides the ships and vessels sunk below to stop the channel up, they sunk and run ashore five large ships above the fort, and we have taken four sloops and a snow. The enemy had kill'd in the fort 40 men and 70 wounded. We also have suffered in some degree, the *Kent* had 19 men killed and 49 wounder, the *Tyger* 13 killed and 50 wounded. Among the number killed was my first lieutenant Mr Saml Perreau, and the Master of the *Tyger.* Among the wounded was Mr Pocock slightly hurt, Captn Speke and his son by the same cannon ball, the latter had his leg shot off, Mr Rawlins Hey my third Lieutenant had his thigh much shatter'd, and is in great danger, Mr Stanton my fourth Lieutent slightly wounded by splinters, but the greater part of the wounded have suffered much, being hurt chiefly by cannon shot several of them cannot possibly recover. I must do this justice to all the officers and men in general, to say, agreeable to their usual bravery, they behav'd with great spirit and resolution on this occasion, as did also the land forces who kept a good and constant fire the whole time from two batteries of four and two guns, they had raised very near the fort.

I am fearful the *Kent* has suffered so much in her hull, I shall be under a necessity of leaving her behind, it being I believe impossible to repair her, which their Lordships will better judge of by the inclos'd account of her defects. Those of the *Tyger* may be repair'd there being some masts and a quantity of other naval stores at this place.

Since by being here, the Nabob has acquainted me, he has made a peace with his enemies, and that he shall now have no occasion for the assistance of our troops, so that how they will be employ'd the remaining part of this summer, is not yet determin'd. The ships must infallably remain here now till August, when I shall endeavour to proceed to Bombay with all the dispatch possible, without calling at Madrass, having sent for the provisions and stores belonging to the squadron to be brought here.

By the arrival of the Bombay ships, I receiv'd their Lordships order of the 18th May 1756 with twelve copies of His Majs Declaration of War against

France, which I have deliver'd agreeable to their direction to the several Captn under my command with orders accordingly.

Their Lordships order for my returning home the latter end of this year, is impossible for me to comply with, but I hope to get away from Bombay, time enough to arrive in England in August or Septr 1758, and tho' my stay will be something longer than they expected, I hope my proceedings in the circumstances I have been under, will meet with their Lordships approbation..

By letters from the Committee at Fort St George, I am inform'd of the *Triton's* arrival at Anjingo on the coast of Malabar the 27th Decemr last, and landed a packett from the East India Company for their governor and council at Fort St George, but no account where she went to from thence. I suppose she is gone to Bombay and it's very probable I may not see her till June or July, which makes me uneasy, as I imagine her Captn is charg'd with orders of some consequence for me.

An opportunity immediately offering by a sloop going from hence to Bussero, I take the chance of these letter's arriving safe, as I imagine the most early notice of this intelligence at home may be of some consequence to our affairs in this part of the world.

I am Sir,

Your most obedient servant

CHAS WATSON.

Kent off Chandernagor

31st March 1757.

I beg the favour yow will forward the inclos'd.

P.S. out of the 500 Europeans said to be in the fort we have only 300 prisoners.

The principal damages his Majesty's ships *Kent* and *Tyger* have received at the attack of Chandernagore 23d. March 1757.

Kent.

Three hanging knees, two lodging knees, and two standards render'd unserviceable.

The gun deck waterway very much shot.

The spurkettins fore and aft in the larboard side, on all the decks very much shott, and rendered unserviceable.

The upper deck clamp shot through in a great many places.

The rudder render'd unserviceable.

The hollow of the counter very much shot.

Four of the hanging ports on the gun deck shot in pieces.

The string of the upper deck, twelve feet in length shot away.

The clamp and waterway of the Quarter Deck very much shot.

The upper finishing of the Larboard Quarter shot away.

The bends, short pieces between the ports, channel wales and upper streak very much shiver'd.

A great number of timbers fore and aft shot through and not fit for ervice.

Chain plates, three of the fore, two of the main, and one of the mizen shot away.

The main and mizen masts render'd unserviceable by shot.

Received in the larboard side one hundred and thirty one shot, many which have gone through both sides, and likewise damaged the starboard side much: Eight shot have pass'd through under the bends into the orlop, which have done considerable prejudice to the frame of the ship.

The upper deck abreast of the main hatchway on the larboard side is much dropt since the action.

TYGER.

The upper works very weak and in great want of repair within and without, being very much shot.

The standing masts all shot, the foremasts, and mizen masts unfit for their proper service.

The berthing of the Taffarel and the breast work of the quarter deck wants to be made new being very much shot.

The larboard cathead, three hanging knees, and three standards shot away.

Several standards wanting to be overset and new fay'd.

Three chain plates shot away.

The davit shot.

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A General Return of all the Troops under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Clive.

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<tr><th rowspan="2">Lieut. Colonel.</th><th rowspan="2">Major.</th><th rowspan="2">Captains.</th><th rowspan="2">Captain Lieuts.</th><th rowspan="2">Lieutenants.</th><th rowspan="2">Ensigns.</th><th rowspan="2">Adjutants.</th><th rowspan="2">Quarter Masters.</th><th rowspan="2">Volunteers.</th><th rowspan="2">Captains.</th><th rowspan="2">Lieutenants.</th><th rowspan="2">Ensigns.</th><th rowspan="2">Volunteers.</th><th rowspan="2">Serjeants.</th><th rowspan="2">Corporals.</th><th rowspan="2">Drummers.</th><th colspan="2">Cents.</th><th rowspan="2">Bombardiers.</th><th rowspan="2">Gunners.</th><th rowspan="2">Mattrosses.</th><th rowspan="2">Total.</th><th rowspan="2">Serjeants.</th><th rowspan="2">Corporals.</th><th rowspan="2">Drummers.</th><th colspan="2">Cents.</th><th rowspan="2">Bombardiers.</th><th rowspan="2">Gunners.</th><th rowspan="2">Mattrosses.</th><th rowspan="2">Total.</th><th rowspan="2">Entertained.</th><th rowspan="2">Deceased.</th><th rowspan="2">Discharged.</th><th rowspan="2">Deserted.</th><th rowspan="2">Killed.</th><th rowspan="2">Wounded.</th><th rowspan="2">Missing.</th></tr>
<tr><th>Europeans.</th><th>Topasses.</th><th>Europeans.</th><th>Topasses.</th></tr>
<tr><td>Kings</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>1</td><td>...</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>1</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>123</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>139</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>14</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>14</td><td>153</td><td>...</td><td>11</td><td>...</td><td>2</td><td>6</td><td>9</td><td>...</td></tr>
<tr><td>Coast Establishment</td><td>1</td><td>...</td><td>3</td><td>...</td><td>4</td><td>6</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>...</td><td>2</td><td>35</td><td>23</td><td>14</td><td>242</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>314</td><td>4</td><td>6</td><td>1</td><td>58</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>69</td><td>383</td><td>2</td><td>43</td><td>...</td><td>6</td><td>26</td><td>51</td><td>...</td></tr>
<tr><td>Bengal Establishment</td><td>...</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>13</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>8</td><td>1</td><td>...</td><td>1</td><td>...</td><td>12</td><td>12</td><td>2</td><td>36</td><td>91</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>153</td><td>6</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>45</td><td>198</td><td>15</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>...</td><td>4</td><td>8</td><td>...</td></tr>
<tr><td>Train</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>...</td><td>1</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>3</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>21</td><td>19</td><td>43</td><td>99</td><td>2</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>7</td><td>16</td><td>115</td><td>1</td><td>9</td><td>1</td><td>...</td><td>4</td><td>10</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>Total</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>9</td><td>2</td><td>12</td><td>22</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>13</td><td>5</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>58</td><td>48</td><td>24</td><td>401</td><td>91</td><td>21</td><td>19</td><td>43</td><td>705</td><td>12</td><td>8</td><td>5</td><td>88</td><td>17</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>7</td><td>141</td><td>849</td><td>18</td><td>67</td><td>2</td><td>8</td><td>40</td><td>78</td><td>1</td></tr>
</table>

Killed.

Captain Dugald Campbell.
Captain Timothy Bridge.
Captain William Pye.
Ensign Charles Kerr.
Volunr. Davidson.
Mr William Belchies.
Secretary to the Army.

Wounded.

Captain Nicholas Willer.
Captain Geo. Fredk Gaupp.
Captain John Fraser.
Captain Thos. Rumbold.
Captain Lt. Peter Carstairs.
Ensign William Ryder.
Ensign William Ellis.
Volunr. Dundass.
Volunr. Stibber.

A General Return of the Seapoys.

<table>
<tr><th rowspan="2"></th><th colspan="9">Doing Duty.</th><th colspan="9">Sick.</th><th rowspan="2">Total of the whole.</th><th colspan="3">Casualties.</th></tr>
<tr><th>Subadars.</th><th>Jamadars.</th><th>Havildars.</th><th>Naicks.</th><th>Colourmen.</th><th>Tom Toms.</th><th>Trumpeters.</th><th>Seapoys.</th><th>Total.</th><th>Subadars.</th><th>Jamadars.</th><th>Havildars.</th><th>Naicks.</th><th>Colourmen.</th><th>Tom Toms.</th><th>Trumpeters.</th><th>Seapoys.</th><th>Total.</th><th>Deceased.</th><th>Killed.</th><th>Wounded.</th></tr>
<tr><td>Coast Establishment</td><td>9</td><td>20</td><td>63</td><td>64</td><td>21</td><td>16</td><td>8</td><td>713</td><td>923</td><td>...</td><td>2</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>67</td><td>79</td><td>1,002</td><td>14</td><td>12</td><td>49</td></tr>
<tr><td>Bengal Establishment</td><td>4</td><td>13</td><td>25</td><td>32</td><td>12</td><td>...</td><td>1</td><td>371</td><td>458</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>458</td><td>...</td><td>6</td><td>6</td></tr>
<tr><td>Total</td><td>13</td><td>42</td><td>88</td><td>96</td><td>33</td><td>16</td><td>9</td><td>1,084</td><td>1,381</td><td>...</td><td>2</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>67</td><td>79</td><td>1,460</td><td>14</td><td>18</td><td>55</td></tr>
</table>

(Sd.) ROBERT CLIVE,
Lieutt.-Col. in His Majesty's Service.

22nd February 1757.

A General Muster of the Troops under the Command of Colonel Clive *in Camp near Chinsura.*

The Military as following :—

	Company's	Major.	Captains.	Capt. Lieu^{ts}.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Adjutants.	Quarter-Masters.	Volunteers.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Drummers.	Europeans.	Topasses.	Total.
King's Troops.	Capt. Grant's	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	3	3	2	72	...	80
	Capt. Weller's	...	1	...	1	2	1	...	...	3	3	2	71	...	79
	Capt. Coote's	...	1	...	2	1	...	1	...	2	4	3	70	...	79
Madras Troops.	Grenadiers Capt. Lin	...	1	...	3	...	...	1	2	6	5	2	65	...	78
	Major Killpatrick's	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	2	26	...	35
	Capt. Maskelyne's	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	3	3	5	3	60	...	71
	Capt. Calender's	...	...	...	...	1	..	...	.	3	3	...	32	...	38
	Vacant Company	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	2	17	...	25
	Captain Gaupp's	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	7	6	4	60	...	77
	Supernumarys	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	15	1	1	11	...	28
Bengal Troops.	Capt. Grant's	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	3	3	2	1	9	29	44
	Capt. Muir's	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	3	3	5	2	25	25	60
	Capt. Cudmore's	...	1	...	...	3	...	...	3	3	1	1	20	43	68
	Capt. Frasers	...	1	...	1	2	1	1	3	9	6	6	51	66	138
Bombay Troops.	Capt. Buchanan's	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	2	12	10	3	66	56	147
	Capt. Armstrong's	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	9	9	3	64	61	146
	Total	1	14	1	13	20	4	3*	19	88	69	37	719	280	1,193

Memorandum.—There are returned in the above Muster 3 Captains, 1 Cap^{t} Lieutenant, 1 Lieutenant, 1 Ensign & 132 Military (being 11 Serjeants, 11 Corporals, 2 Drummers, 79 Europeans, and 29 Topasses) who are sick in the Hospital. Pay Rolls exact with the above Muster allowing casualties. There have 1 Serjeant, 5 European Centinells, & 6 Topasses died since the 15th of March, who are drawn pay for this Month. There are Missing & Deserted, 6 European Centinells & 1 Topass (being 1 European from Capt^{n} Buchanan's Company, 4 Europeans from Capt^{n} Armstrong's, 1 European & 1 Topass from Capt^{n} Cudmore's & 1 European from Capt^{n} Fraser's). Officers Names to the Companys as they stand in order. King's Troops, Capt^{n} Grant, Lieu^{tt} Corneille, Ensigns Adnett & Blair, Capt^{n} Weller, Lieu^{tt} Pierson, as Lieutenant and Adjutant, Ensigns Yorke & Balfour, Capt^{n} Coote, Lieu^{tt} Bush, as Lieutenant and Quarter Master, Lieu^{tt} Power, Ensign Fenton. Madrass Troops, Grenadiers, Capt^{n} Lin, Lieu^{tt} Campbell as Lieutenant and Quarter Master, Lieu^{tts} Knox & Truite. Major Killpatrick to his Company (Captain Maskelyne's Company) Lieu^{tt} Scottney as Lieutenant & Adjutant, Ensign Stenger (Capt^{n} Callender's Company) Ensign Tabby (Capt^{n} Gaupp's Company) Capt^{n} Gaupp, Lieu^{tt} Toecher, Ensigns Oswald & Wiecks (Supernumarys) Capt^{ns} Rumbold, Wagner & Fischer, Capt^{n} Fraser as Adjutant. Bengal Troops Capt^{n} Grant, Lieu^{tt} Dyer, Ensigns De Lubers & Vavels & Capt^{n} Muirs, Capt^{n} Lieu^{tt} Carstairs, Ensigns McLean & Ellis, Capt^{n} Cudmore, Ensigns Demee David Prichard & Champion, Capt^{n} Fraser, Lieu^{tt} Keir, Ensigns Gibbons & Barns. Bombay Troops, Capt^{n} Buchanan, Lieu^{tt} Walsh, Ensign Robertson, M$^{r.}$ McLean

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* Total of Col. Quarter-master should be 4.

Quarter Master, Capt^n Armstrong, Lieu^{tt} Palmer, Ensign Tottingham, Lieu^{tt} Corneille of the King's Troops appointed to do Duty as Captain.

TRAIN.

	Captain.	Capt. Lieutenants.	Lieutenants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Drummers.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Matrosses.	TOTAL.
Madras's Detachment	1	2	3	4	5	2	16	18	37	82
Bengal Detachment	...	...	2	2	1	1	5	9	12	30
Bombay Detachment	...	1	3	2	2	1	6	10	41	62
TOTAL	1	3	8	8	8	4	27	37	90	174

Memorandum.—There are Sick 2 Cap^t Lieutenants, 2 Lieutenants & 22 of the train, *viz.*, 1 Serjeant 5 Bombardiers 8 Gunners 8 Matrosses) who are sick in the Hospital & returned in the above Muster-Pay Rolls exact with the above Muster. There are on Command at Cossimbuzar, 1 Lieutenant (Mr. Cassells) & 14 of the train who are drawn Pay for but not returned above. Entertained in the service this Month, 1 Matross of the Madras's Detachment, & 2 Matrosses of the Bengal Detachment. Officers Names to the Companys, Madras's Detachment, Cap^t Barker, Cap^t Lieutt^s Paschoud & Jennings, Lieutt^s Bonjour, Ford, & Charles deTorrian. Bengal Detachment, Lieu^{tts} Lewis & Johnson. Bombay Detachment, Cap^t Lieutenant Egerton, Lieutt^s Molitore, Turner & Kinch.

SEAPOYS.

		Subdars.	Jammedars.	Havildars.	Naikes.	Colourmen.	Seapoys.	Tom Toms & Trumpeters.	TOTAL.
MADRAS SEAPOYS	Kaser Sing's	1	3	7	8	2	79	3	103
	Verderauze's	1	4	8	9	2	76	3	103
	Bovan Sing's	1	4	7	7	2	81	2	104
	Comrapah's	1	4	8	8	3	75	2	101
	Peer Mahomed's	1	3	8	9	2	79	3	105
	Russet Cawn's	1	4	7	7	1	83	...	103
	Mahomed Cawn's	1	4	8	9	3	74	4	103
	Raganaigue's	1	4	6	9	3	71	3	97
	Hider Saib's	...	3	7	7.	3	77	3	100
	Surviaw's	1	3	7	5	2	79	2	99
	Shaik Doud's	1	4	10	9	2	83	1	110
	Tim Naig's	1	4	8	8	2	71	3	97
	Vengana's	1	4	9	9	2	69	3	97
	Jaffer Mahomed's	1	4	9	8	2	55	1	80
	Smaik Sman	1	4	8	9	3	79	...	104
BENGAL SEAPOYS.	Condozees	1	3	7	7	3	96	1	118
	Seid Hussen's	1	4	7	9	3	98	...	122
	Mordeen Saib's	1	4	5	7	3	95	3	118
	New Seapoys entertained	...	2	1	..	...	99	...	102
	TOTAL	17	69	137	144	43	1,519	37	1,966

Memorandum.—There have been killed of the Madrass Seapoys at Charnagore, 1 Subdar, 3 Jammedars, 3 Havildars, 1 Naike, & 7 Seapoys, & Pay has been drawn for them last Month. The four last Companys of the Madrass Shaik Doud's, Tim Naig's, Vengana's & Jaffer Mahomed's arrived here from thence last month. The sick being 1 Jammedar, 3 Havildars, 2 Naikes, and 47 Seapoys, are returned in this Muster.

The Cooleys, Artificers, Lascars, &^{ca}., in Camp with the Draught Carriage and Puckall Bullocks.

COOLEYS, &CA.			ARTIFICERS, &CA.										LASCARS.				BULLOCKS, &CA.			
Peons.	Head Cooleys.	Cooleys and Momity men.	Europ. Carp^{rs}.	Europ. Smith.	Carpenters.	Smiths.	Hammer Men.	Bellows Boys.	Chuckledars.	Chuckleys.	Sawyers.	Bricklayers.	Cooper.	Serangs.	Tindals.	Lascars.	Total.	Draught Bullocks.	Carriage Bullocks.	Puckall Bullocks.	Bullock Drivers.
15	24	1,020	2	1	24	14	12	4	6	2	9	2	1	10	33	416	459	170	200	4	220

Memorandum.—Of the above Lascars there are 7 Syrangs, 20 Tindals, & 310 lascars belonging to Bengal & the rest belong to Madrass.

This General Muster taken in Camp near
Chinsura, the 7th of April 1757.

(Signed) THOS. MAUNSELL,
Commissary.

A General Muster of the Troops in the Fort of Chandernagor under the command of Colonel Robert Clive.

THE MILITARY.

	Company's.	Major.	Captains.	Captain-Lieutenant.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Adjutants.	Quarter Masters.	Volunteers.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Drummers.	European Centin^s.	Topasses.	TOTAL.
KING'S TROOPS.	Captain Grants	...	1	...	2	1	...	1	...	3	3	1	69	...	76
	Captain Wellers	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	3	3	3	69	...	78
	Captain Cootes	...	1	...	1	1	1	...	...	2	4	3	70	...	79
MADRASS TROOPS.	Grenadiers Captn Lin	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	2	8	6	2	74	...	90
	Major Killpatricks	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	7	6	4	42	...	59
	Captain Rumbold's	...	1	...	1	2	1	...	3	5	6	3	69	...	83
	Captain Gaupps	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	7	5	4	44	...	60
	Supernumeries	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	17	...	1	10	...	28
	TOTAL	...	8	...	10	7	2	2	6	52	33	21	447	...	553

Memorandum.—There are returned in the above Muster, 2 Captains, 2 Ensigns & 56 Military (being 2 Serjeants, 1 Corporal, 2 Drummers & 51 Europeans) who are Sick. There is also return'd 13 of the Military who are Invalids. Pay Rolls agreeable to the Muster allowing casualties. There is absent without leave 1 Volunteer in the Grenadiers, & 12 European Centinels of Captain Gaupp's Company have deserted this month. Officers names to the Companies as they stand in order, Kings Troops, Captain Grant, Lieutenant Corneille and Bush the latter as Quarter Master, Ensign Adnett, Captain Weller, Lieutenant Power, Ensign Yorke, Captⁿ Cooke, Lieutenant Pierson who is also Adjutant, Ensign Belford, Madras Troops, Grenadiers, Captain Lin, Lieutenants Knox & Tuite, Major Killpatrick's, Lieutenᵗ Campbell who is also Quarter Master, Captⁿ Rumbold, Lieutenant Scotney as Lieutenant & Adjutant, Ensigns Stenger & Tabby. Captain Gaupp, Lieutenant Toecher, Ensigns Oswald & Wick, Supernumeries Captains Wagner & Fischer, Lieutⁿᵗ Flaction, Lieutenant Corneille of the King's Troops does duty as Captain, The Bengal and Bombay Troops, Mustered before are now in Garrison at Calcutta.

TRAIN.

Madrass Detachment.	Captain.	Captain Lieutenants.	Lieutenants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Drummers.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Mattrosses.	TOTAL.
TOTAL . . .	...	2	3	6	3	2	16	14	35	76

Memorandum.—There are sick in the Hospital 5 Mattrosses who are returned in the above Muster Officers Names to the Company Capt Lieutenᵗ Paschoud and Jenings, Lieutenant Terrena Bonjour and Ford.

SEAPOYS.

Companys.	Subdars.	Jammedars.	Havildars.	Naicks.	Colourmen.	Seapoys.	Tom Toms and Trumpeters.	TOTAL.
Kaser Sings	1	4	7	9	3	77	2	103
Condagees	1	4	8	9	3	99	4	128
Moideen Begg	1	4	8	9	3	103	4	132
Bovan Sing	1	4	7	7	2	77	2	100
Tim Naig	1	4	8	9	2	72	2	98
Mahomet Cawn	1	4	8	9	3	67	4	96
Noor Cawn	1	4	8	8	3	70	3	97
Comrapan	1	4	7	8	2	71	2	95
Raga Naicks	1	4	8	9	3	64	3	92
Venganas	1	4	9	9	2	68	1	94
Peer Mahomed	1	4	8	9	2	66	3	93
Verderanze	1	4	8	9	2	64	3	91
Rosset Cawn	1	4	8	8	2	65	2	90
Surviaws	1	4	8	9	2	71	2	97
TOTAL . .	14	56	110	121	34	1,034	37	1,406

Memorandum.—There are sick 1 Subdar, 2 Jamedars, 7 Havildars, 6 Naicks and 98 Seapoys who are returned in the above Muster.

The Cooleys Artificers, Lascars, &^{ca}., in Chandernagor with the Draught Carriage and Puckall Bullocks.

Cooleys.			Artificers.										Lascars.				Bullocks.			
Peons.	Head Cooleys.	Cooleys and momity men.	Carpenters.	Smiths.	Hammer men.	Bellows Boy.	Chuckledars.	Chucklers.	Sawyers.	European Carpenter.	European Smith.	Coopers.	Serangs.	Tindals.	Lascars.	Total.	Draught Bullocks.	Carriage Bullocks.	Puckall Bullocks.	Bullock Drivers.
16	26	1,130	81	29	12	14	6	4	33	1	1	2	11	33	431	475	250	350	4	352

Memorandum.—Of the above Lascars, 7 Serangs, 20 Tindals and 325 Lascars belong to Bengal. The rest belong to Madrass.

This General Muster taken in Chandernagore, the 12th June 1757.

(Signed) THOS. MAUNSELL,
Commissary.

A General Return of the Troops under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Clive on the Expedition to Muxudabad.

A General Return of the Troops under the Command of

SYDABAD, AUGUST THE 3RD, 1757.		OFFICERS DOING DUTY.									SICK.			NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS & CENTINELS DOING DUTY.								
																	CENTINELS.					
DETACHMENTS.	COMPANIES.	Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Captain Lieutenants.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Adjutants.	Quarter Masters.	Volunteers.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Drummers.	Europeans.	Topasses.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Matrosses.	TOTAL.
KINGS	Captain Grants	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	6
	Captain Wellers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	12	...	...	...	...	16
	Captain Cootes	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	2	10	...	...	...	...	14
MADRASS	Grenadiers	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	11
	Captain Gaupps	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	4	3	32	...	...	...	...	45
	Captain Rumbolds	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	3	3	2	50	...	...	...	...	58
	Captain Campbells	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	7	2	38	...	...	...	...	52
	Supernumeraries	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	1	6	...	...	...	...	19
BENGALL	Captain Grants	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	3	4	2	33	...	...	...	...	42
	Captain Muiers	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	2	2	18	16	...	...	...	40
	Captain Cudmores	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	19	12	...	...	...	35
	Captain LeBeamus	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	1	14	12	...	...	...	29
	Captain Frasers	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	3	1	3	25	7	...	...	...	39
BOMBAY	Captain Armstrongs	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	5	2	1	35	28	...	...	...	71
	Captain Palmers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	4	2	23	19	...	...	...	50
	TOTAL INFANTRY	1	1	6	1	9	11	3	4	6	1	3	4	47	33	25	328	94	...	...	...	527
	Madrass Artillery	...	...	...	2	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	1	...	...	14	6	26	54
	Bengall Artillery	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3	3	9	18
	Bombay Artillery	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	5	7	15	30
	TOTAL	1	1	6	4	14	11	4	4	6	1	3	4	57	35	27	328	94	22	16	50	629

Deceased.

Capt. William Lin.

June 10th—Thos Hammand Centl in Captn Archd Grant's Compy.

June 19th—Moses Ford Centl in Captn Coote's Company.

June 13th—Daniel Murry Centinel in the Grenadr Company and Jno DeBremmes Centinel in Captn Alexr Grant's Company.

June 6th—Willby Kirby Serjeant in Captn Armstrong's Company.

July 18th—John Frederick Holser Centinel in Captn Fraser's Company.

Mr. Jonathan Willson, Volunteer.

July 24th—Peter Deglar Drummer in Captain Gaupp's Company.

Deserted.

June 14th—Hendrick Litcherous Centinel in Captn Alexr Grant's Company.

June 16th—Peter Fisherman Jno Defrance and Francis Lewis Centinels in Captn Palmer's Company.

June 20th—Peter Bernard and Jno Murgroff Centinels in Captn Alexr Grant's Company.

June 23rd—Coitan Disobree and Jne Lewis Jerald Centls in Captain Palmer's Company.

June 30th—Joseph Hewtor Centinel in Captn Muiers Co.

July 15th—John Le Grenade Cent in Captn Alexr Grant's Co.

Killed.

June 23rd—John Raison Corporal in the Grenadr Company William Bisenar Centl in Captn Muier's Compy. George Anderson Corporal, Jno Brant Gunner and Thomas Berry Matross in the Madrass Artillery.

A General Return of the

	ON DUTY.									ON COM-				
ESTABLISHMENTS.	Subedars.	Jammedars.	Havildars.	Naicks.	Colourmen.	Tom-toms.	Trumpeters.	Seapoys.	TOTAL.	Subedars.	Jammedars.	Havildars.	Naicks.	Colourmen.
Madrass	9	31	49	54	13	8	4	857	1,025	5	29	67	77	21
Bengall	6	28	52	61	21	13	3	679	863	1	...	4	...	...
TOTAL	15	59	101	115	34	21	7	1,536	1,888	6	29	71	77	21

Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Clive on the Expedition to Muxudabad.

ON COMMAND.													SICK.									TOTAL.									CASUALTIES.					
							Centinels.									Centinels.									Centinels.											
Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Volunteers.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Drummers.	Europeans.	Topasses.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Matrosses.	Total.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Drummers.	Europeans.	Topasses.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Matrosses.	Total.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Drummers.	Europeans.	Topasses.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Matrosses.	Total.	Dead.	Deserted.	Entertained.	Killed.	Wounded.	
1	1	...	...	2	2	1	53	...	...	...	...	58	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	10	3	3	1	67	...	...	...	...	74	1	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	1	...	3	1	1	52	...	...	...	...	57	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	4	3	3	3	68	...	...	...	...	77	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	1	2	1	46	...	...	...	...	50	1	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	11	2	4	3	66	...	...	...	...	75	1	...	...	...	4	...
...	1	...	3	4	3	2	52	...	...	...	...	61	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	4	7	4	2	63	...	...	...	...	76	2	...	...	1	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	1	...	7	...	...	...	...	8	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	7	5	3	40	...	...	...	...	55	1	...	...	...	1	...
1	...	2	...	3	1	1	14	...	...	...	...	19	...	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	5	6	5	3	68	...	...	...	...	82	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	...	...	2	8	..	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	5	5	7	4	51	...	...	...	...	67	...	...	...	...	...	..
...	1	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	1	6	...	...	...	...	26	...	...	...	...	2	...
1	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	3	4	4	3	35	...	...	...	...	46	2	4	1	...	1	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	2	19	16	...	...	...	41	...	1	...	1	...	...
1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2	1	1	2	21	13	...	...	...	38	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	6	3	1	1	18	12	...	...	...	35	...	...	...	...	2	...
...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	4	25	7	...	...	...	40	1	...	3	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	2	1	12	1	...	...	...	16	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	7	4	2	47	30	...	...	...	90	1	...	...	...	1	...
1	1	...	1	1	...	...	12	1	...	...	...	14	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	4	4	2	35	21	...	...	...	66	...	5	1	...	...	...
8	5	5	6	21	12	11	257	2	...	...	...	303	8	3	...	44	3	...	...	...	58	76	48	36	629	99	...	...	...	888	9	10	5	2	11	...
...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	5	5	13	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	7	11	7	3	2	...	...	16	12	38	78	...	...	...	3	5	...
...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	3	...	...	...	...	3	3	14	23	...	...	...	...	2	...
...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	7	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	1	...	...	6	9	23	42	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	8	5	6	22	13	12	257	2	2	7	15	330	9	4	...	44	3	1	1	10	72	88	52	39	629	99	25	24	75	1,031	9	10	5	5	18	...

Wounded.

June 23rd—Lieutt DeLubers, Lieut. Cassells and Lieutt Holst, Daniel Lyons Serjeant, James Thorn, Peter Newby and Jno Greenwood Centinels in Captain Coote's Company, David Pridence Serjeant in Capt Gaupp's Company Jno Pringle and Jno Dyson Serjeants in the Supernumeraries, Thomas Crowder Centl in Captain Grant's Company, Thomas Lander Serjeant in Captain Le Beamn's Company and Joseph Massy Wright Serjeant in Captn Armstrong's Company.

Coroporal Jno Potter, Geo. Pitman Bombardier John O. Bryan Bombardier, and William Lloyd Gunner in the Madrass Artillery, and Christopher Raste Matross in the Bengall Artillery.

Entertained.

June 17th—James Graham Centinel Capt Alxr Grant's Compy.

June 22nd—Anthony Mullier Centinel in Capt Palmer's Compy.

June 27th—Christian Poleman Centl in Capt Fraser's Compy.

July 4th—Taranjour Centinel in Captn Fraser's Compy.

July 31st—St Jacque Centinel in Captn Fraser's Company.

Seapoys.

MAND.				Sick.									Total.									Casualties.					
Tom toms.	Trumpeters.	Seapoys.	Total.	Subedars.	Jammedars.	Havildars.	Naicks.	Colourmen.	Tom-toms.	Trumpeters.	Seapoys.	Total.	Subedars.	Jammedars.	Havildars.	Naicks.	Colourmen.	Tom-toms.	Trumpeters.	Seapoys.	Total.	Deceased.	Deserted.	Killed.	Wounded.	Entertained.	Discharged.
17	9	687	912	2	2	9	9	...	...	...	79	101	16	62	125	140	34	25	13	1,623	2,038	5	40	4	19	789	3
...	...	27	32	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	14	17	7	29	56	63	21	13	3	720	912	...	...	9	11	...	...
17	9	714	944	2	3	9	11	...	...	...	93	118	23	91	181	203	55	38	16	2,343	2,950	5	40	13	30	789	3

(Sd.) ROBERT CLIV ,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

Government of India Central Printing Office,—No. 956 F. D.—30-6-94—500

Admiralty Records. Log Books "Tyger" 23 Mar. 1757—11 July 1761. Vol 5414.

[*Extract*]

Week days.	Mo^{ts} days.	Winds.	Remarks at Chandanagore River Hughly.
March 1757 . Wednesday .	... 23 .	S. W. S. W. Western board. S. W. Quarter.	Mod^{t} gales & fair weather. At 3 P. M. we sent 30 of the *Bridgwater's* men on b^{d} of the *Salisbury* at 7 we ymbark^{d} a datatchment of King's troops, at 8 we hoisted George Pocock Esq$^{r's}$ flag at our miz^{n} topmast head, as rear of the white squadron, *Kent* Guard all night, at ½ past 6 A. M. we hove short, at half past 6 we carried out our streem anch^{r} to steady the ship while we weigh^{d} & catted the bower anch^{r} also carried out a small anch^{r} & hawser to cast the ship, ditto weigh^{d} & came to sail as did also the the *Kent* and *Salisbury*—sent the long boat to weigh the streem, anch^{r} & in about 5 minuets we were got through the French sunken ships, ditto the enimy began to fire on us very hot from the fort & out battary, Coll Clive open^{d} his fasheens on them & began to cannonade & bombard to annoy the enimy, at 45 minuets past 6 the Adm^{l} made the sig^{l} to yngage, at 50 minuets past 6 we anchrd in 7½ fath^{m} of water with our small bower with a 10^{ynch} hawser for a spring which was bent to the ring of the anch^{r} & we lay abreast of the fort, the N. E. Bastain distance from the shore about 20 paices, at our first fire the enimy desarted the mudd fort by the water side & our soldiers & seapoys took possession of it, at 7 o'clock the *Kent* anchor & engaged the S. E. Bastion, Our ship lying in an eddy & lyable to be rak^{d} by the enimy we carried but the streem anch^{r} astarn & hove her squar with the fort at 15 minuets past 7, the *Salisbury* anch^{d} a considerable distance below the *Kent*, at 15 minuets past 9 the enimy waved a flag of truce on the N. E. Bastion & ceas^{d} fireing, the Adm^{l} haul^{d} down the sig^{l} & ceas^{d} fireing, at half past the Adm^{l} sent Cap^{t} Latham on shore with a flag of truce, at ½ past 11 some French gentlemen went on b^{d} of the Adm^{l} to treat for capatulation & many truces past & repast the *Kent* and *Salisbury*, haul^{d} nearer the fort d^{o}, we lent the *Kent* 6½ hawser, some ammunitin blew upon the N. E. Bastion which allarm^{d} us but we soon found it to be an accidant, Kill^{d} in the action the persons following *viz* Robert Phillips, M^{r} John Garman, Will^{m} Pettelly, Cook, Tho^{s} Duglass, John Tommy, Luke George, Will^{m} Peasly, Rich^{d} Adams, Jo^{n} Selvia, Rich^{d} Batty, Rob^{t} Dunn, Tho^{s} Newton, George Jones, wounded Rear Adm^{l} Pocock & about 60 men. We found here 4 larg Europ ships run on shore, the damage we received in reguard to the ships rigging is as follows *viz;* shot away main shrouds 5, fore shrouds 3, main seers, main topsail sheets, fore topsail sheets, Both the gammonings of the bowsprit, fore clewgarnets, fore & main Topsail, clewlines Topgal^{t} tys liffs top rops, topsail bowlins fore

Admiralty Records. Log Books "Tyger" 23 Mar 1757—11 July 1761. Vol 5414.—contd..

[*Extract*]

Week days.	Mon^{ts}. Days	Winds.	Remarkable observ^{ns} at Chandanagore in the River Hughly.
March 1757 .	...	S. W. Quarter.	& main tops^{l} halyards, one stopper & shank painter of the small bower, the strap of the fish pendant block, 3 main topmast back stays, m^{n} topm^{t} stay & spring stay, topm^{t} stays^{l} sheets, jibb sheets & guys fore sheets, a great number of hamoekoes also messenger besslower cable ciar cable also the ynsign.
Wednesday .	23^{d} .		Gunner's Report as follows viz. the 5th gun on the gun deck disabled, the 5th gun on the upper gun deck disabled, also carridges; Carpenters Report as follows, the bowspit shot just without the stem in two places, also the fore mast, also the main mast & miz^{n} m^{t}, also the supports of the catheats, also y^{e} reals of the head Lyon, also the upper work very much shatter^{d}, also the Bell and y^{e} cook's copper.

Exd.—B. M.

Govt. of India Central Printing Office—No. 749 F.D—10-11-92.—500.

Extract from General Letter to England from Fort St. George, dated 6th June 1757.

The Bengal Expedition has been attended with the loss of many good Officers, our address by the *Chesterfield* acquainted you of same, and we are concerned at the addition We are now to make.

Military.

Captain John Howes, died at the Negrais, 26th September 1756.
Captain Timothy Bridge, killed at Bengal, 5th February 1757.
Captain William Pye, Do. Do.
Captain Dugal Campbell, Do. 29th December 1756.
Ensign Charles Kerr, Do. Do.

Artillery.

Captain Lewis D'Illens? died at Fort St. David, 1st March 1757.

G. I. C. P. O.—No. 202 F. D.—9-6-92.—500.—R. B.

To—The Hon'ble the Secret Committee for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

HONOURABLE SIRS,

1. We have given you a full account of the state of these provinces and our transactions to the 26th of March, triplicate of which advices were forwarded by His Majesty's Sloop of War, the *King Fisher*.

2. This letter is purposely to acquaint you of a happy revolution in the Government of this kingdom in favour of Jaffir Ally Khan, of the part we took in this affair, and our motives for it, and of the advantages obtained by espousing the present Subah's cause and placing the sway in his Hands.

3. On the first of May Colonel Clive laid before us two letters he had received from Mr. Watts dated the 26th and 28th of April in which after some observations on the strangeness of the Nabob's behaviour, and that all degrees of people were persuaded he would break with us upon the first favourable opportunity, he proceeds to inform the Colonel that Jaffir Ally Khan had sent for Coja Petruse and given him to understand that most of the Nabob's principal officers were tired of his Government & ready to desert him and set up another if we would countenance & support the confederacy with the assistance of our troops. That if we approved of this Scheme he desired our Demands of what Monies, Lands, &ca would induce us to engage in the Business. In the last of the above mentioned letters Mr Watts repeats his apprehensions of the Nabob's Design to break the Treaty he made with us, urges a speedy answer might be sent to Jaffir Ally Khan's proposal, and gives it as his opinion the project was feasible and might be executed without much Difficulty.

4. As a proposition of this Importance required our most serious Consideration, we accordingly debated maturely the Consequences of embracing this offer, and whether it should be accepted or declined. After a long Consultation in which every Reason for and against the Scheme was collected and deliberately argued on, it was the unanimous Sense of the Committee that a Revolution in the Government (whatever hands it fell into) would be advantageous to the English; that there could be no Hurt in trying to effect it, as our good understanding with Seraja Dowla was extremely precarious, and a Rupture with him universally expected as soon as the Squadron and Army left us, and that by joining Jaffir Ally Khan to supplant him, we should obtain in all probability very beneficial Terms for the Company as well as live free of any Apprehensions from the Country Government. But as these general Reasons would not have justified our embarking the Company in such an undertaking & hazarding a Breach with Seraja Dowla after concluding the peace we did, we think it necessary to recite at large our Motives for engaging in a Confederacy to change the Government, and doubt not they will be esteem'd sufficient by our Employers to vindicate our Proceedings.

5. First, it was evident to us from the whole Tenour of the Nabob's Behaviour since the Peace, That we could not possibly rely on his Friendship, and that the Treaty made with him would soon be violated when once he thought himself superior to us in strength, his Delay in performing the Agreement, many of the Articles being at that time as far from being compleated as at first, the Evasion of giving us any Satisfaction for the Losses suffer'd by our Inhabitants thro' Monickchund's Means, the small sum of Money which was pretended to be given Credit for in his Sircarry, being scarce a tenth part of the Loss sustained by the European's alone; with several other parts of his Conduct were so many convincing proofs that his Friendship was unsincere and that he could not abide by his Treaty which the Exigency of his Situation alone inclined him to make.

6. Secondly, there was the greatest Reason to imagine he was an utter Enemy to the English and privately endeavouring to bring in the French with promises of joining them against us. We were confirmed in this Opinion from the Great aversion he show'd to our molesting the French at Chandernagore

his espousing and protecting Monsieur Law and his party, after that place was taken, his keeping them in this Part; and the certain intelligence we have received from all quarters of his writing frequently to Monsr Bussy sending him large presents, and inviting him to march this Way: This was so notorious that it was publickly talked of and known, his Cossids passing almost daily thro' Ballasore, and but a few days before some Elephants and Seerpaws arrived at that place within passage to Monsr Bussy's Camp.

7. Lastly, there was great room to think he did not mean well by the Orders he had given to fortifye Cutwah, and the removing of Suffras Cawn's Family from Dacca into Pooranea; The Interruptions our Boats and People met with in their way to Cossimbuzar contrary to the Treaty of Peace, with many actions of the same Nature which put it beyond all doubt that his Dislike and Jealousie of our Nation was rooted, and that he would not miss any Opportunity of ruining our Affairs and exterpating the English out of his Country: It was therefore but common prudence to prevent our own Ruin, which could not be done so effectually any other Way than by divesting the Nabob of the power of hurting us.

8. Another Inducement to undertake this Affair was the universal Hatred of all Sorts and Conditions of Men to Seraja Dowla, the affection of his Army alienated from him by his ill usage of the Officers, and a Revolution so generally wish'd for, that it is probable it would be attempted (and perhaps successfully) even without our Assistance in which case it would have availed us but little, whereas by countenancing the Confederacy and supporting it with our whole Force we might make our own Terms, benefit our Employers both by present and future advantages, do a general Good, procure some satisfaction to the Inhabitants of our Colony for their heavy Losses in the Capture, establish the Tranquillity of the Country, and by that Means open a greater Currency than ever to our Business, and lastly cut off the Expectation of the French and keep them totally out of these Dominions.

9. Motives so interesting and founded upon the prime Law of Self preservation determined us to embrace the proposal made by Jaffir Aly Khan provided adequate Terms were granted in Consideration of entering into a fresh War with the Nabob, whose Consequence must have proved very detrimental to our Affairs, if the Success of it had not been answerable to our Expectations. Accordingly after some consideration the following Demands were esteemed equitable and reasonable to be ask'd. Vizt. That our Phirmaund and the Priviledges acquired by the Treaty with Seraja Dowla be confirmed and punctually comply'd with; That Restitution be made of the Company's whole Loss, and the Loss of the European Inhabitants of Calcutta; That our Bounds be augmented; That we have Liberty to fortifye Cossimbuzar; That an Offensive and Defensive Alliance be made against all Enemies of both parties, as well Europeans as others, and that the French be not permitted to re-settle in these provinces; That the Moors do not fortifye within Twenty Miles of the River Side from Hughly down to Ingellies; And that the Revenues of a certain Tract of Land be made over and assigned to us in Consideration of our maintaining a good Body of Troops. These Terms were accordingly transmitted to Mr Watts to get Jaffir Aly Khan to assent to them.

10. On the 17th May Colonel Clive laid before us a Letter from Mr Watts with such Articles of Agreement as Jaffir Aly Khan's Confident had assured him would be accepted of, and requesting that if they were approved of by the Admiral and Committee they might be engrossed in Cypher, signed and sealed by them, and returned to him to get them executed by Jaffir Aly Khan. As those Articles were greatly more advantageous for the Company than the Terms we had demanded there could be no objection to them on our part. They were accordingly approved of and ordered to be engrossed with some Alterations relating to the Satisfaction of private Sufferers. The substance of them you will find in the translate of the Persian Treaty herewith transmitted for your Observation.

11. In order to prevent the least Suspicion of what we were doing, our Troops were Ordered into Quarters, part of them in Calcutta and part in Chandernagore, and the Nabob wrote to (agreeable to Jaffir Aly Khan's Advice) recall his Army encamp'd at Plassey and Daudpore.

12. Matters being advanced thus far, it was next judged proper to obtain if possible a personal Conference between Jaffir Aly Khan and some person of Trust and Confidence on our part. To effect this without allarming the Nabob's suspicions, it was proposed for the Colonel to send the Nabob a Letter by Mr Scrafton's Hands acquainting him that he had an affair of Consequence to communicate by which Means Mr Scrafton might have an opportunity of seeing Jaffir Aly Khan and confer with him on the plan of Operations for executing our project, to assure him of our Attachment to his Interest, and to use his Endeavours to get such Security as could well be given without discovering the Scheme.

13. On the 19th May the Treaty being engrossed in the manner Mr Watts had requested, it was signed and sealing by the Admiral and the Members of the Committee.

14. From that Time till the 11th June, the Colonel received several Letters from Mr Watts confirming us in the Opinion we had conceived of the Nabob's writing to Monsr Bussy to march this Way and exterpate the English. These Letters likewise gave a Detail of the progress of our negotiation with Jaffir Aly Khan, who on the 5th ultmo signed, sealed and solemnly swore in the presence of Mr Watts, to abide by the Treaty he had made with the English, and to perform punctually the agreement on his part, as soon as he was in Possession of the Subahship.

15. Mirza Omar Beg on the 11th ultimo arrived at the French Gardens where we assembled a Committee & had the Treaty in Persian executed by Jaffir Aly Khan delivered us by the above mentioned person, who gave us the greatest Assurance of his Friendship and Esteem for the English; that there would be very little Difficulty in effecting a Change of Government, and that we might depend upon it, Jaffir Aly Khan would be punctual in performing every Article of his Agreement.

16. Mr Watts, his Letters all urging the immediate March of our Troops towards Muxadavad, and the Committee for many Reasons judging it best to lose no Time, as this appeared the most favourable Conjecture we could have to succeed in our Enterprise, and as a Delay might not only produce a Discovery of our Confederacy and consequently the ruin of our Project, but would greatly diminish our strength, while the Nabob would have Time to augment his army by calling in his Troops from all Quarters and enlisting others, It was therefore resolved to set out immediately, and on the 13th of June our Troops began their March.

17. On the 19th or 20th June Cutwah Town and Fort (a Strong place) was taken by our Troops, where the Colonel remained two or three Days to get some Advice or Letter from Jaffir Aly Khan, having received but one on his Way up. The 26th June we had the pleasure to receive a Letter from him with the news of a compleat Victory obtained over Seraja Dowla in the plains of Plassy, his whole Army and himself being fled, and we in possession of his Camp, Ordnance, &c. That Jaffir Aly Khan, Roydoolub and Lutter Cawn had observed a Neutrality during the engagement and were with the Colonel at the Time of writing of his Letter.

18. On the 29th we received the agreeable News of Jaffir Aly Khan's being in possession of the City and Kila of Muxadavad, that Seraja Dowla had withdrawn privately, but it was not doubted would be soon taken, and that Mohimloll was prisoner at the City. In a Letter of the 30th June Colonel Clive acquainted us of his having seated Jaffir Aly Khan in the Mussnud, and that he had received the Homages of his Zemindars and people as Subah of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar and Orissa.

19. We now beg leave to congratulate you Hon'ble Sirs, and the Company on our Success in this important Business and the Happy change of Government establish'd in these Dominions so fortunately and speedily. Our Loss has been but very trifling, not above 20 Europeans being kill'd and wounded.

20. The advantages of the Treaty made with the present Nabob are too apparent to want any Comment, if the Terms are punctually complied with, which we have not the least Reason to doubt. But we must take the Liberty to recommend to your serious Consideration, the preservation of the Grants

and priviledges acquired by this Revolution, which can be done only by keeping up a large Body of Troops in the Country. As it is the Company's Interest to exert themselves on this Occasion, we make no Doubt you will immediately enlist and send out a sufficient Number of Recruits to make a respectable Garrison in Bengall, which should consist of a Body of two thousand Europeans at least, which Expences we think will be overpaid by the Advantages of our Acquisitions. We flatter ourselves therefore you will not on any Account neglect the sending such a body of Europeans as we have mentioned to be necessary. This we are of opinion will be the only method of preventing in future the Encroachments of the Country Government, to make our Friendship and Alliance courted, to carry on our Trade on the securest Footing, and to oppose the Re-settlement of the French in these provinces.

21. Upon examining the Treasury, Roydoolub petended there was but one Crore, and fifty Laacks of Rupees in Ballance. This obliged Colonel Clive to go to the City himself in order to be near the Nabob. This Letter of the 30th ultimo informs us to put an End to all Heart-burnings and Jealousies between us and the Nabob, he agreed to refer the Affair to Juggutseat's Arbitration, that the Nabob and he accordingly went there and after some Consideration Juggutseat desired the Colonel would not insist immediately on the full payment of the sums stipulated in the Treaty, but that half should be made good without Delay in Money and Jewels, the other half to be paid in three years at three annual and equal payments. These Terms the Colonel consented to as they were better than he expected, considering the Lowness of the Nabob's Treasury. Since which we learn that one-third in Specie of the whole was actually embarking on Boats for Calcutta.

22. But as the bad consequences of deferring the payment of any part of the money appeared to us too evident to be allowed of if it could be avoided, we have wrote the Colonel our Sentiments thereon and desired the Gentlemen of the Select Committee who are at Muxadavad to use their best endeavours to obtain immediate payment, but if that is not to be done, to get some good Security from the Nabob to abide by his Contract, that for our parts we should prefer Juggutseat's engaging to see it punctually made good, and next to that Security a Mortgage of such Lands contiguous to Calcutta whose Revenues will be equal to the sum to be received by us annually.

23. Having given you, Hon'ble Sirs, a very particular Detail of our Transactions since engaging in the Confederacy to set up Jaffir Aly Khan, we have Reason to flatter ourselves you will approve of our Conduct thro' the whole of this nice but necessary step.

24. Mr Manningham is gone up to Muxadavad to assist in hast'ning the Completion of the Treaty and settling such Matters as relate to the mercantile part of it.

25. By a Letter from Colonel Clive dated the 30th June late at Night, we learnt that Seraja Dowla was taken, and by another Letter of the 4th Instant, we are informed of his being cut-off by Jaffir Aly Khan's Son and others.

26. Tranquillity being establish'd by the Change we have been advised of People's Minds more at Ease, and no Apprehensions of Trouble from the Government remaining We have begun the purchase of this Year's Investment by sending Money to the different Aurungs, and hope with the assistance of the Goods received from Seraja Dowla at our Subordinates and Aurungs to be able to send the Company a handsome Return from this Presidency.

27. As the sum of money to be received from the Nabob; even if Juggutseat's Determination is to stand good will greatly exceed our Demands for the Investment, we purpose to advertise that all Interest Notes will be discharged upon being tendered, and that in Case the proprietors do not sue for payment before the 1st Day of October next, the Interest will cease from that Day. This will ease the Company of a very heavy Burden, and we hope will prove very agreeable News. In this place we must beg Leave to remark that by Juggutseat's Determination the Company are to receive for three years successively the Sum of Sixteen Laacks and two-thirds of Rupees in Specie which with the sale of your annual Imports and the Amounts of Bills of Exchange that we shall be under a Necessity of granting will be full sufficient, we imagine, for the respective in-

vestments of those three years without obliging the Company to run the Risque of any Bullion for the Supply of the Presidency till that Term of Years is expired.

28. These advices are despatched in Triplicates of the Select Committee of Bombay to be forwarded to Europe by the quickest Conveyances either by shipping or by land. We shall endeavour to send Copies to Fort St. George to be forwarded from thence to Europe, and shall despatch the *Dilligent* Schooner about the Middle of next month directly home with another Copy of this Pacqueet, by which means We hope the Company will get the Intelligence of what has happened in Bengall before the Ship's of next season leave England.

29. Since writing the afore the Money from Muxadavad is arrived.

We are with the greatest Respect,

HON'BLE SIRS,

FORT WILLIAM,
14th *July 1757.*

Your most faithful humble Servants,

ROGER DRAKE, *Junr.*

RICHD BECHER.

To—The Hon'ble The Secret Committee for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Compy of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

HONOURABLE SIRS,—

By the *King Fisher* Sloop of War under date 16th April I gave you an account of the taking of Chandernagore. The subject of this address is an Event of much higher Importance, no less than the entire overthrow of Nabob Seraja Dowla and the placing of Jaffir Ally Cawn on the Throne. I intimated in my last how delatory Seraja Dowla appeared in fulfilling the articles of the Treaty; This Disposition not only continued, but we discovered that he was designing our Ruin by a Conjunction with the French. To this end, Monsr Bussy was pressingly invited to come into the Province and Monsr Law of Cossimbuzar (who before had been privately entertained in his Service) was order'd to return from Patna. About this Time some of his principal Officers made overtures to us for dethroning him, at the Head of these was Jaffir Ally Cawn, then Buxey to the Army, a Man as generally esteem'd as the other was detested. As we had Reason to believe the Disaffection partly general, We soon entered into Engagements with Jaffir Ally Khan to put the Crown on his head. All necessary preparations being compleated with the utmost Secrecy, the Army consisting of about 1,000 Europeans and 2,000 Seepoys with 8 pieces of Cannon marched from Chandernagore, the 13th June, and arrived the 18th at Cutwaw Fort which was taken without Opposition. The 22nd in the Evening we cross'd the River, and Landing on the Island march'd Straight for Placis Grove where we arrived by one in the Morning. At day break we discovered the Nabob's Army moving towards us, consisting as we since found of about 15,000 Horse and 35,000 Foot, with upwards of 40 pieces of Cannon. They Approached a pace, and by six began the Attack with a number of heavy Cannon supported by their whole Army, and continued to play on us very briskly for several Hours during which our Situation was of the utmost Service to us, being Lodged in a large Grove surrounded with good Mud Banks. To succeed in an attempt on their Cannon was next to impossible, as they were planted in a manner round us, and at a considerable Distance from each other, we therefore remained quiet in our Post in expectation of a Successfull Attack upon their Camp at Night. About Noon the Enemy drew off their Artillery and retired into their Camp being the same which Roydulub had left but few days before, and which he had fortified with a good Ditch and Breastwork. We immediately sent a Detachment accompanied with 2 Field Pieces to take possession of a Tank with high Banks which was advanced about 300 Yards beyond our Grove, and from whence the Enemy had considerably annoy'd us with some Cannon managed by Frenchmen: This motion brought them out a second Time, but on finding them make no great Effort to dislodge us, we proceeded to take possession of one or two more Eminences lying very near an Angle of their Camp; from whence & an adjacent Eminence Still in their possession they kept a smart Fire of Musketry upon us. They made Several Attempts to bring out their Cannon but our advanced Field pieces played so warmly and well upon them that they were always drove back. The Horse exposing themselves a good deal on this Occassion many of them were killed, & among the rest four or five Officers of the first distinction, by which the whole Army being visibly dispirited and thrown into some Confusion we were encouraged to Storm both the Eminence and the Angle of their Camp, which were carried at the same Instant with little or no loss, though the Latter was defended (exclusive of Blacks) by 40 French and 2 Pieces of Cannon, and the former by a large Body of Blacks both Foot and Horse. On this a general Rout ensued and We pursued the Enemy Six miles, passing upwards of 40 Pieces of Cannon they had abandoned, with an Infinite Number of Hackaries and Carriages filled with Bagage of all kind. Seraja Dowla escaped on a Camel, and reaching Muxadavad early the next Morning dispatched away what Jewels and Treasure he conveniently could, and he himself followed at Midnight with only two or three attendants.

It's computed there were kill'd of the Enemy about 500. Our Loss amounted to only 22 Killed and 50 Wounded and those chiefly Blacks. During the Warmest Part of the action we observed a large Body of Troops hovering on our Right, who proved to be our Friends, but as they never discovered themselves by any Signal whatever we frequently fired on them to make them keep their Distance. When the Battle was over they sent a congratulatory Message and encamp'd in our Neighbourhood that Night. The next morning Jaffir Ally Khan paid me a visit and express'd much Gratitude for the Service done him, assuring me in the most Solemn Manner that he would faithfully perform his Engagements to the English. He then proceeded to the City which he reached some Hours before Seraja Dowla left it.

As immediately on Seraja Dowla's Flight Jaffir Ally Khan found himself in peaceable possession of the Palace and City, I encamped without to prevent the Inhabitants from being plundered or disturbed, first at Maudipoor and afterwards at the French Factory at Sydabad. However I sent forward Messrs. Watts & Walsh to enquire into The State of the Treasury and inform me what was transacting at the Palace. By their Representations I soon found it necessary for me to be present on many Accounts. Accordingly the 29th I entered the City with a Guard of 200 Europeans and 300 Seepoys and took up my Quarters in a Spacious House and Garden near the Palace. The same Evening I waited on Jaffir Ally Khan who refused Seetting himself on the Musnud till placed on it by me, which done, he received Homage as Nabob from all his Courtiers. The next morning he returned my visit, when after a good deal of Discourse on the Situation of his Affairs I recommended to him to consult Juggutseat on all Occasions, who as a Man of sense and by far of the greatest property among all his subjects, would give him the best advice for settling the Kingdom in peace and Security. On this he propos'd that we should immediately set out Together to visit him, Which being complied with, Solemn Engagements were enter'd into by the three Parties for a Strict Union and mutual Support of each others Interest. Juggutseat then undertook to use his whole Interest at Delhi, which is certainly very considerable, to get the Nabob acknowledged by the Mogul and our Late Grants confirmed, likewise procure for us any other Phirmaunds we might have occasion for.

The Substance of the Treaty with the present Nabob is, *viz.*:—

1st—Conformation of the Mint and all other Grants and Priviledges in the Treaty with the late Nabob.

2nd—An Alliance offensive and defensive against all Enemies whatever.

3rd—The French Factories and Effects to be delivered up, and they never permitted to re-settle in any of the three Provinces.

4th—One hundred Lack of Rupees to be paid to the Company in consideration of their Losses at Calcutta and the Expences of the Campaign.

5th—Fifty Lack of Rupees to be given to the English Sufferers at the Loss of Calcutta.

6th—Twenty Lack to Jentoos, Moors, &tea, Black Sufferers at the Loss of Calcutta.

7th—Seven Lack to the Armenian Sufferers. These three last Donations to be distributed at the pleasure of the Admiral and the Gentlemen of Council including me.

8th—The entire Property of all Lands within the Moratto Ditch which run round Calcutta to be vested in the Company, also six hundred yards all round without the said Ditch.

9th—The Company to have the Zemmindarry of the Country to the South of Calcutta lying between the Lake and River and reaching as far as Culpee, they paying the Customary Rents paid by former Zemmindars to the Government.

10th—Whenever the Assistance of the English Troops shall be wanted their extraordinary Charges to be paid by the Nabob.

11th—No Forts to be erected by the Government on the River Side from Hughley downwards.

12th—The foregoing Articles to be performed without Delay as soon as Jaffir Ally Khan becomes Subah.

On Examining the Treasury there were found about 150 Lack of Rupees which being too little to answer our Demands, much less leave a sufficiency for the Nabob's necessary Disbursements, it was referr'd to Juggutseat as a mutual Friend to Settle what paymt should be made to us, who accordingly determined that we should immediately receive one-half of our Demand ⅔rd in Money & ⅓ in Gold and Silver Plate, Jewels and Goods, and that the other half should be discharged in three years, and three equal and annual payments.

The part to be paid in ready money is received and safely arrived at Calcutta, and the Goods, Jewels, &cta, are now delivering over to us, the major part of these will be bought back by the Nabob for ready money, and on the remaining Part there will be little or no Loss. A large proportion was proposed to have been paid us in Jewels, but as they are not a very Saleable Article we got the Amount reduced one-half, and the Difference to be made Good in Money.

It is impossible as yet to form a Judgement how much the granted Lands will produce you, as the Europeans are quite ignorant of the Extent of the Country between the River and Lake, but in order to give you some Idea of the value I'll venture to estimate it at 10 Lack ℘ Annum. An Officer on the part of the Nabob is already dispatched to Calcutta to begin the Survey in Company with one of ours.

Seraja Dowla was not discovered till some Days after his Flight, however he was at last taken in the Neighbourhood of Rajahmaul & brought to Muxadavad the 2nd Instant late at Night. He was immediately cut off by order of the Nabob's Son, and as it is said without the father's knowledge. Next morning the Nabob paid me a visit and thought it necessary to palliate the matter on Motives of Policy, for that Seraja Dowla had on the Road wrote Letters to many of the Zemindars of the Army, and occassioned some Commotion among them in his favour.

Monsr. Law and his party came down as far as Rajahmaul to Seraja Dowla's Assistance and were within 3 Hours March of him when he was taken. As soon as they heard of his misfortune they return'd by forced Marches and by the last Advice had passed by Patna on the other side of the River. A party of Europeans and Seepoys were quickly dispatched after them, but I am doubtful if we shall be able to overtake them before they get out of the Nabob's Dominions. Strong Letters have been wrote from the Nabob to the Naib of

Patna to Distress them all in his Power and take them prisoners if possible, a Compliance with which I am in impatient Expectation of.

I ought to observe that the French I spoke of in the Action were some Fugitives from Chandernagore who had assembled at Sydabad. It was by their Advices and indeed by their Hands that the English Factory at Cossimbuzar was burned and destroyed after our Gentlemen had quitted it on the Renewal of the Troubles.

The present Nabob has every appearance of being firmly and durably Seated on the Throne. The whole Country has quietly submitted to him, and even the apprehension of an Inroad from the side of Delhi is vanished. So that this great Revolution, so happily brought about, Seems compleat in every Respects, I persuade myself the Importance of your Possessions now in Bengal will determine you to send out not only a large and early supply of Troops and good officers, but of capable young Gentlemen for the Civil Branches of your Business.

I shall shortly have an opportunity of writing by an Express Vessel intended to be dispatched from Calcutta. But for fear of accidents I forward these Advices by Way of Bombay.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect,

HONOURABLE SIRS,

MUXADABAD,
26th July 1757.

Your most Obedient and most humble Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

To—The Hon'ble the Secret Committee for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

HONOURABLE SIRS,—

My Letter of the 26th July, three Copies of which were forwarded by the Way of Bombay and Fort St George, and a fourth is now enclosed, contains the particulars of the great and happy revolution in this Kingdom effected by your arms: Very little has since happened in the Military Province for me to acquaint you with.

Notwithstanding the urgent Letters wrote both by the Nabob and myself to Ramnaram, the Naib of Barhar, to distress and impede the French in their Rout through his Country, they were suffered to pass unmolested, whether through inclination or Cowardice, I cannot yet determine. By my last advices they had reached Benaras, a City about 60 miles beyond the Limits of this Government, belonging to a Rajah tributary to the Nabob of Oud, in whose Service they will be probably be entertained. Mr Law in answer to some Overtures I made to him and his Party for surrendering themselves seems to build on such a Support. The Detachment sent after them consisting of 200 Europeans and 500 Sepoys arrived the 3rd of this month at Chuppra, about 36 miles on the other side of Patna and within 16 of the Boundary of the Nabob's Dominions; beyond which they have orders not to pass. About Twenty of the French deserted to us, and though the principal Design of taking the whole Party Prisoners has miscarried through Ramnaram's Misbehaviours, yet I have Reason to think the Expedition has been of some Service to the Nabob in awing the Province of Bahar into Submission, a Country notorious for it's Turbulence and Disobedience to the Soobah.

Some of Serajah Dowla's Letters to the French having fallen into my Hands, I enclose a Translate of them (Paper No. 5) just to shew you the Necessary we were reduced to of attempting his Overthrow. I was fully apprized of all his Proceedings by Means of Mr Watts, with whom I kept up a very full Correspondence, too voluminous indeed to transmit you a Transcript of at least at this Opportunity. I must here do that Gentlemen the Justice to say his Services at the Durbar have been very great as well in promoting the Ruin of the French as in negotiating the Treaty with Jaffir Ally Cawn; Omichund likewise had merited well while acting in concert with M^{r} Watts, but I had Reason to think his intriguing Disposition was carrying him too far in the Pursuit of his private Interest, therefore recommended to him a visit of Devotion to Malda. He is a person capable of rendering you great Services while Properly restrained, therefore not to be wholly discarded.

On my first arrival at Cossimbuzar I desired the Gentlemen of the Select Committee would send up M^{r} Manningham to assist with M^{r} Watts in drawing up a Treaty with the present Nabob more formal than that he first signed, to see proper Perwannahs issue for the Mint and the Granted Lands, and in short to attend to the civil parts of Business which were to be carried on here. Permit me therefore to leave to the Gentlemen of the Select Committee the Account of all such Transactions. I will only observe that since my last Advice about Sixteen Lack Sixty five Thousand Rupees has been paid by the Nabob in ready Money on account of the Goods we were. to have received: Jewels to the Amount of about 3 Lacks are already delivered to us, and we are still to receive Silver to the Amount of about 2 Lacks, and Fine Muslins, Shawls, &^{ca} about 4 Lacks, the Remainder is promised us in ready Money as soon as some Treasure daily expected from Purneo arrives. In my last when I acquainted you with the Articles of the Treaty I forgot to mention a Promise from the Nabob to the Navy and Army of 50 Lacks, which is subject to the same periodical Payments as the other Donations and has a Concern in the above mentioned Receipts.

In the Book of Country Letters now forwarded are Translates of those I have wrote to the Nanna of the Marottoes, Salabat Jung and the Moghol (No. 189 : 200 : & 202 :) Some Days before my Setting out on the Expedition to Muxadavad arrived Letters from the Nanna directed to the Governor, desiring the Alliance of the English, and that we would enter into no Treaty with Serajah Dowla for that he would engage to enter the Province with 150,000 Marottoes and make good to us double of all the Losses we had sustained, that as we were powerful in Ships we might keep out the French by Sea and he would take care to do it by Land. No other use was made of the Letter at that Time than to send it to Serajah Dowla in order to obtain his Confidence and prevail on him to withdraw his Army from Places where they had been encamped for some Time through Mistrust of us. You will observe I have wrote to the Nanna of our strict Alliance with the present Nabob, and that I have engaged his Promise that the customary annual Chout shall be duly paid.

You will hear from others the particulars of the Loss of Bandamalanka Nilhipelli and Vizagapatam. It is much to be regretted that the Escape of the Garrisons of the two last was not timely provided for: M^{r} Perceval and the Officers from Vizagapatam being arrived here on Parole, a Court of Enquiry is ordered on the latter.

My last advices from Fort S^{t} George are of the 29th June, when the English and French armies were encamped near one another in the Neighbourhood of Wandiwash. They were rather more numerouse in Europeans, but we had the advantage in Blacks. It was generally thought that no action would be attempted on either Side till one or the other was reinforced from Europe. Before our Army took the Field, the French had made an unsuccessful attempt on Tritchinopoly: The most disagreeable Circumstance that has happened in that Quarter is the revolt of the Madura and Nelloor Countries through the Perfidy of two of the Nabob's Brothers, Mauphos Cawn and Nazabulla Cawn, who were on the point of being chastised, when the French marched against Tritchinopoly and thereby put a Stop to our Proceedings.

The Gentlemen of Fort S^{t} George have been very urgent with me for my returning with the Troops to the Coast, judging I apprehend that after the Conclusion of the Peace with Serajah Dowla and the Reduction of Chandernagore there was little left to be done in Bengal. A sufficient knowledge of Serajah Dowla's Disposition must have induced another Way of thinking. It was very early visible he bore a deep resentment against the English and that all his Compliances sprung solely from Fear. To have weaken'd our Force would have been loosing the Reins to his Malice and Insolence. The French Subordinates were still to be destroyed, and if possible themselves totally exterpated from his Kingdom. Some of the capital Points of the Treaty were not complied with, such as putting us in Possession of the Villages, admitting the Currency of our Siccas, and restoring to us such part of the Plunder of Calcutta as was brought to Account in the Circarry Books: These Circumstances without Mention of the Alarms of Mons^{r} Bussy's Marching this Way and being joined by the Nabob, will shew the Necessity there was for detaining the Troops, and I flatter myself the great Event which has since happened will fully justify my Conduct both to you and the Gentlemen of Fort S^{t} George.

I hope by this Time the Coast has received a Considerable Reinforcement from Europe, the late Arrival of your Shipping giving Room to conclude that they sailed in a Fleet accompanied by Men of War. Detaching Troops from hence to Madrass at this Season can be of little use there on Account of the approaching Rains, and might be of fatal Consequences to the affairs of this Kingdom where the Government is so newly settled that it's Enemies have hardly had Time to declare themselves. The Disposition of the Naib of Patna, the Nabob of Oud, and the Marottoes is not yet clearly known. For these Reasons it may be necessary to delay the Return of the Madrass Troops till December or January, when their passage will cost them but few Days, however the advices from the Coast we hourly expect will greatly serve to determine what Measures are best to be pursued. For my own Part be assured Gentlemen that it is solely a Desire of seeing your affairs, important as they now are, firmly established that detains me in Bengal. The Nabob's Generosity has enabled me to live with Satisfaction in England, and the frequent attacks I have here of a nervous Disorder make me very desirous of an Opportunity of changing this climate.

I have in all my Letters pressed for a large Force to be sent to this Settlement, and I don't doubt Gentlemen but the Importance now of your Possessions as well as expectations will induce you to use your utmost Efforts to secure them. The Nabob who looks upon us as his chief Support is very desirous that we should have a strong Fort and Garrison near his Capital. Our old Factory at Cossimbuzar is improper on many Accounts, M^{r} Brohier therefore is shortly to come up from Calcutta to pitch on the best Spot for a Fortification, and to set about raising it with the utmost Expedition. I think it necessary to remark that one or more capable Engineers should be sent out, was an Accident to happen to M^{r} Brohier here or M^{r} Call at Fort S^{t} George we should be at an absolute Loss to carry on your Works at one or the other place.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect,
Honorable Sir's
Your most obliged humble Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

MUXADAVAD,
6th *August 1757.*

To—The Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

1. We addressed you last by his Majesty's Sloop the *King Fisher*, a Duplicate of that Letter is enclosed. This Vessel being Dispatched to give your Honours an Account of the Revolutions effected by the Assistance of our Troops in the Government of these Provinces. We beg leave to congratulate you on an Event, so glorious for the Nation and so benificial to the Company. By this opportunity we shall give you a summary Account of what has occurred under our Management since the Close of our Letter ℔ *King Fisher.*

2. We informed your Honours of our having sent the *Marlborough* to Fort S^{t} George for the Woollen Goods, Copper, &^{ca}, detained there out of the Consignments for this Place. She returned the Beginning of last month with such part of those Consignments as remained unsold or not us'd, and we have ordered the Captain to get her in Readiness to take in the Hon'ble Company's Goods for Europe & purpose to lade on her about 4,000 Bags of Salt Petre, her Charter Party Tonnage of Redwood, and about 700 Bales with which Cargo we shall return that Ship to Fort S^{t} George to be fill'd up and finally dispatched for Europe from hence.

3. Admiral Pocock having recommended Mr Peter Mac Leshlan for the Command of this Vessel, We have given him charge of her, being well satisfied of his Capacity as a Seaman, & that he will do his utmost to carry the important Intelligence to your Honours. We have permitted him to put on Board a small adventure agreeable to the enclosed Manifest.

4. The *Mermaid* Sloop is under dispatch for Madrass (all Communication by Land being cutt off) on which Vessel we shall send 8 or 900 Bags of Salt Petre for the use of that Settlement.

5. We shall endeavour to send the President & Council of Bombay the Quantity of Petre they have wrote for by such Conveyances as may be destined for that side of India. We wrote to Admiral Watson to put the *Protector* under our Orders that we might lade some part of the Petre designed for Bombay on that Ship, but the Squadron being in want of a Storeship he could not acquiesce with our Request.

6. Upon the arrival of the *Marlbro'* we fixe'd the Sale of your Honours woolen Goods, Copper, Lead, &ca Madeira for the 18th of this month & have given the usual notice of the Day of Sale both here & at Muxadavad. By the *Marlbro'* we shall inform your Honours of the Sale thereof.

7. Several Purchasers of Broad Cloth, Lead, &ca before the Loss of the Seettlement having paid into the Treasury the amount of their Purchases without having taken them out of the Factory Pititioned us after our Re-establishment to be allowed a Salvage of what was found of the Sortments they had purchas'd, this being esteemed reasonable we consented to it. A few Days since Mr. Edvard Halden Cruttenden Petitioned the Board by Letter to be paid the Ballance of his Purchase of Broad Cloth, as he apprehended those Goods being lost in the Factory were looked upon by the Nabob as the Company's Property, in consideration of which he had given a large sum of Money. This being debated in Council we were of opinion the Goods in the Factory which had been paid for were at the Risque of the Purchaser though not taken away, & therefore we refused to comply with the Request made in the above mentioned Letter as we could not esteem the Company responsible for such Goods.

8. The President & Council of Fort St George having sent us One hundred Tons of Copper by the *Protector* it turned out Mds 18-33-4 short in weight upon its Delivery here, the amount of which Deficiency was demanded of Capt England. In consequence of this Demand he addressed the Board and assured us there was no other Copper on Board than the Company's, and as he had deliver'd right in Tale he imagined the Deficieney must be owing to some Mistake at Madrass, upon this assurance the Board have wav'd the Demand upon Capt England supposing the Difference to be owing to the Method of weighing off Goods at Madrass where they weighed by large Draughts of a Candy, & in Bengal by a Draught of five Maunds.

9. Under this Head We beg leave to remark that your Servants at Fort St George have invoiced the Copper & Wine sent us by *Protector* & *Marlbro'* at the price those Articles sold for at their Settlement instead of the prices they were invoiced at from Europe & Madeira, by which means the profits which should appear in our Books will be carried to the Credit of their Presidency. We have made this Remark to Mr Pigot & his Council, & as the method they have taken is irregular & improper, we have informed them we should give Account Current London Credit for the whole of the Consignments sent us last Year, & their Presidency for the part they have detained.

10. By the Establishment of Patna Factory we have hopes of selling part of the Company's Imports at a greater Advantage than of late Years they have sold for in Calcutta, but this will depend nevertheless on the tranquility of the upper parts of the Empire where those Commodities are chiefly carried & consumed.

11. Hitherto we have not been able to make any great Progress in the Investment of this Season. The delay made by the late Nabob in performing his Treaty & returning our Goods seiz'd by his Orders, the apprehensions we were under of a fresh Rupture with, and the want of a sufficiency of Cash to supply the Aurungs with any large sums of Money were all of them so many Impedi-

ments to our commencing the provision of our Investments. The coarse Sortments made near Calcutta the Export Warehouse Keeper was ordered to purchase early in April, & small sums of money advanced for that purpose. Since the change of Government Gomastahs have been sent to the several Aurungs with money who are directed to provide the Cloth of their respective Aurungs on the most reasonable Terms they can procure them taking particular Care not to debase their Quality.

12. Junior Servants are also gone to all our Subordinates with Lists of Investments and Directions to provide if possible the full of their Orders.

13. The Agents for disposing the Effects taken at Chandernagore have offered us a Considerable parcel of Cloth proper for your Honours Use, part of those Goods have been sorted & the Price adjusted. We have likewise made them offers for the Remainder and hope very shortly to settle the Whole.

14. That we might not be disappointed of a large Investment this Season by trusting entirely to the Purchases of our Gomastahs, we have resolved to receive in our Cottah any Goods offered us for ready money if equal in Quality to what our Gomastahs provide.

15. As we were prevented by our unhappy Situation last year from sending your honours the usual Quantities of Goods annually forwarded from hence, as we flatter ourselves the Loss of Chandernagore will have a good effect in the Company's Sales, We think it for the Interest of our Employers not to confine ourselves too closely to the Orders contained in the List of Investments ꝑ *Walpole* in respect to the Goods to be sent home, as it was not possible for your Honours then to foresee the above mentioned Circumstances. We hope our Conduct therefore will not be disapproved of should we exceed your Orders, As nothing induces us to that Measure but the hopes of it's proving very beneficial to our Honorable Masters.

16. A parcel of the Company's Silk wound off before the seizure of Cossimbuzar by Suraja Dowlah having been purchased by some Guggerat Merchants it was offer'd us again at the same Price they bought it. As the silk was extremely good we gave Mess^{rs} Watts & Manningham orders to buy it up which they have done accordingly and we hope to send it Home ꝑ *Marlborough.*

17. We wrote likewise to those Gentlemen to endeavor to make Contracts with the Merchants at Cossim for the Quantities of Raw Silk, Silk Piece Goods & Gurrahs ordered in the List of Investment ꝑ *Walpole,* To which they have replied, that they have employed a Gomastah to procure the Piece Goods and Gurrahs of 72 Cavid. But there is no prospect of getting any more Raw Silk this Season fit for the Company's Use, for which Reason they recommend our providing the Radnagur Silk by a Gomastah, which they imagine in Europe, as it is a strong & even Silk. To this we have replied that we shall endeavour to purchase some of that Sortment of Silk by way of Trial, but as it has never been sent home before nor is wrote for by the Company, we think it imprudent to send any large Quantity to Europe.

18. Soon after the taking of Chandernagore we applied to the Directore & C^{o} of Hughley to Contract with us for 60,000 Maunds of Salt Petre to which we could get no definitive Answer. And Omychund having since offered to deliver 58,000 M^{ds} of that Article in time for the despatch of this year's Shipping, We have agreed to take it of him at Six AR^{s} ꝑ Factory Maunds, 20,000 M^{ds} to be delivered in September, 15,000 in November & the Remainder in February. We have the satisfaction likewise to hear from M^{r} Pearkes at Patna that he is likely to make a Contract for 40,000 Maunds of Petre at CR^{s} 5—6*a* ꝑ Factory Maund to be delivered in Calcutta free of all Risque & Charges, which Contract we have empowered him to make, as we esteem it extremely reasonable. When the other Servants set out for Patna we shall transmit a List of Investment for that factory & direct them to procure the Sortments of Goods wrote for this Season by your Honours.

19. The Select Committee, whose Province it is, will inform your Honours of the Particulars of the Revolutions in the Government of these Provinces, by what means effected, & the share We had in those Transactions. By the enclosed Translate of the Treaty made with Jaffier Ali Khan you will observe

the advantage redounding to the Company by the Change. We have the further Pleasure to inform you that the Subah acquits himself of his Engagement to our entire satisfaction, that his Sunnud is extremely full, & greater Immunities allowed the Company in it than the Phirmaund specifies, and that the Privilege of our Mint is much more extensive, than the Perwannah granted in for that purpose by Surajah Dowlah.

20. The Coungoe's Man being arrived to make a Survey of the Districts Pergunnah, Villages, Towns, &c., to be granted us by the Nabob, We have ordered Captain Robert Barker to attend him in his Survey, & make a rough Plan of the Course of the Lake, its Depths, &ca., that we may be able to ascertain and determine the Boundaries of the Territory to be granted us, from which Survey & Plan when compleated & perfected, We flatter ourselves many advantages will arise to the Trade of this Settlement.

21. As a fresh Treaty with the present Subah is drawing up to be reciprocally executed by him & us, the Select Committee requested this Board would consider any amendments or alterations in the articles of the former Treaty for the advantage of the Company. In consequence of this Request we have recommended to those Gentlemen at Muxadavad to have the Treaty signed by the Nabob's Son as well as himself, & that it specify it's Binding to his Successors & Heirs. We have likewise desired them to get the 10th Article relating to the Assistance of our Troops explained, as the word made use of in the first Treaty (*i.e.*, Coracky) implies no more than Diet money.

22. The President rememb'ring something of a Machulka exacted from Mr Slackhouse when Chief of Cossimbuzar not to trade for Salt or Goods & Grain not designed for Exportation, and of a prohibition of the Government forbidding our winding off or purchasing the Head Setters only of Raw Silk, We have desired the Gentlemen at Muxadavad to have the above mentioned Matchulka and Prohibition made null and void as we are not restrained in those Particulars by the Phirmaund.

23. Upon the Arrival of People from Muxadavad for coining our Money, We appointed the President Mr Frankland & Mr Boddam a Committee to make an Assay of the Coinage of the different Species of Bullion, & report to the Board how an hundred ounces of each Species will turn out in Sicca's of equal Weight & fineness of those stamped at Muxadavad, & what the charges will be of Coinage, &ca, that we might establish our Mint upon a solid footing. Hitherto that Committee has made no Report, but some Rupees have been stamped & sent up to Muxadavad for Trial, where they have been approved of. We purpose to establish our Mint upon the same footing with that of Madrass.

24. Mr Watts having procured a Perwannah for our resettling at Patna without any Extra Expences to the Durbar Officers, we thought it the most favourable Juncture we could have for establishing that Factory, & by that means securing a Provision of Petre which at this Time we judged of the utmost Importance. Accordingly Messrs Pearkes, Batson & Billers were ordered to proceed to transmitt us advice of the State of the markets there in order to Broad Cloth, Copper, Lead, & Iron, & to inform us if Salt Petre was procurable & upon what Terms. Mr Pearkes set out immediately & is now at Patna, the other Gentlemen waited till the Disturbances then in agitation were Settled, and will proceed to Patna in a few days.

25. As the large Sums of Money we shall receive from the Nabob with what will be paid into the Treasury for Bills of Exchange will be more than sufficient for our Occasions for this year, We think it would be imprudent to encrease your Honour's Risque at this Settlement which is as yet in no Posture to resist an European Force. We have therefore wrote to the other Presidencies to send no Money or Bullion to this Place till they hear further from us.

26. Having purchased a parcel of Redwood of the Captors of Chandernagore, we have desired the President & Co of Fort St George to send us none of that Article if they are necessitated to pay freight for having it brought hither.

27. We must not omit that we have desired the Gentlemen at Muxadavad to get the annual Pescash made payable for the future at Muxadavad instead

of Hughley, & to pay the Pescash for the proceeding year that no Trouble may be given in future on that Pretence.

28. The President laid before us in the month of March a Letter from him to the Hon'ble the Secret Committee in England advising of Captain Brohier's being ordered to repair to this Settlement & lay a Plan for erecting Fortifications as might secure it from the Attempts of an European Enemy, and directing a standing Committee to be formed for procuring Materials on the Cheapest Terms and carrying on the Works with Economy. In consequence of these Directions, the President Mr Frankland & Mr Mackett were appointed to be a Committee for the above-mentioned Purpose, of which Committee Mr Brohier when present was to be a Member.

29. Immediately after the Receipt of these advices we advertised that we were willing to Contract for all kinds of Materials for Building. The Committee above mentioned likewise wrote to Dacca & Ballasore for the Prices of Timbers, Planks, Chunam, &ca, at those Places. Their answer were laid before the Board, but the Prices being esteem'd too high, the Committee were desired to look out for those Articles nearer to Calcutta & to procure them on cheaper Terms.

30. Captain Brohier arrived in the *Marlbro'* the Beginning of last Month & has delivered us a Letter purposing to erect a Citadel to the Southward of the old Dock as soon as possible for the Defence of the River & the Company's Effects, & when that is compleated & executed, to fortify the white Tower with a Glacis, Wells, Ditch, &ca. That your Honours may better judge of this Place we transmitt you a Copy of his Letter enclosed. It has been twice read and considered in Council, & Captain Brohier has been desired to survey the Ground & Deliver a Plan of the Citadel he intends building as soon as possible, which he has promised. In the mean time we have ordered all the houses to the Southward of the Old Dock to be survey'd & valued by six Appraisers—Three on behalf of the Company & three to be chosen by the proprietor of every house survey'd, an Umpire to be elected to determine the Valuation if they can't agree among themselves. By the foregoing method we flatter ourselves all Cause of Complaint will be obviated.

31. Having mentioned that by the foregoing Method we hope all Cause of Complaint will be obviated, it will not be improper to explain that part of our Letter by informing your Honours that Mr. Edward Halden Cruttenden soon after his Return from the Coast addressed us on the Subject of his Houses levelled after the retaking of Calcutta for an Esplanade to the Factory, complaining of the low valuation set on his Dwelling House, & that of the late Edward Eyre, Esqr, Dec'd, as likewise of the irregularity of doing, the proprietors having never been informed of the Resolution of Council nor desir'd to chose Persons on their own Behalf to be present at the Appraisement which is Customary in such like cases. To this we reply'd by our Secretary that those Houses had been surveyed & estimated by four impartial Gentlemen at which Valuation we were willing to pay Mr Cruttenden for his Houses. This reply not being satisfactory he sent in another Letter to the Board repeating his Complaints of the Irregularity of the Appraisement, & further setting forth that his own Dwelling House had been burnt by the Party of Soldiers and Volunteers who were posted there, on their being withdrawn to prevent the Enemy from getting possession of and annoying the Fort from the Top Terasses. This being a known Fact we esteemed it but reasonable to make him an Allowance for it, & having agreed to pay him 12,000 Rupees for the House but cannot encrease the valuation of the other as the method taken by the Gentlemen appointed to value the Houses then designed to be levelled appears to us very proper & satisfactory, which is entered at large on the Face of our Consultation of the 4th Instant.

32. The Gentlemen of Muxadavad have informed us in their Letters that the Nabob is very pressing with them to fortify Cossimbuzar, or if the Spot which our Factory now stands upon is inconvenient, he will give them any other Spot of Ground they choose upon the Island. They have considered the Utility of having a strong Fortification well garrison'd so near the Capital, & have desired Captain Brohier may be sent up to pitch upon a proper Situation for fortifying & plan out a strong Fort. The Nabob has likewise requested of them to build

a Fort at Rajamall at his Charge. We made this known to Captⁿ Brohier, & desired him to set out as soon as he conveniently could for Cossimbuzar.

33. We purpose to return the *Hunter* Schooner in a few Days to the Negrais, & request the Chief there to provide a Quantity of Teak Timbers of the Dimensions specified in Captⁿ Brohier's Inventory.

34. His Majesty's Ship the *Kent* being condemned, & reported unfit to proceed to Sea, we have applied to Admiral Watson for the use of the Guns with their Shot for our new Works, till we can be properly supplied by your Honours, or can purchase the said Guns & Shot of the Board of Ordnance, which he has acquiesced with, & we beg Leave to recommend it to your Honours to endeavor to purchase of the Board of Ordnance the said Guns & Shot for the Fortifications to be erected in Bengall.

35. Upon the conclusion of the late Disturbances & the new Government established, We purpos'd to appoint Chiefs to all our Subordinates & settle them upon some established Footing. Accordingly We wrote to Messʳˢ Watts & Manningham to know if either of them chose to be appointed Chief of Cossimbuzar, Patna or Dacca. Mʳ Watts has chosen to remain at Cossimbuzar, & the Council have appointed with him Messʳˢ Hastings, Sykes & Hugh Watts. We then debated for appointing Chiefs to Dacca & Patna, but the Weight of Business in Calcutta at this Juncture making it necessary to have as many Members of the Board upon the Spot as possible, we have defferred establishing any Chiefs at those two Places for the present, & have directed Mʳ Pearkes to repair to His Seat at the Board upon the arrival of Messʳˢ Batson & Billers.

36. On the 31ˢᵗ of March Major Killpatrick advised us of his being under a Necessity of returning to Europe for his Health. We are therefore to request your Honours will appoint a Person to Succeed him as Major of this Settlement.

37. Mʳ Edward Leycester, one of your Covenanted Servants of the last Season demised the 15ᵗʰ of March, & we hear by private Letters from Cossim that the Reverend Mʳ Cobbe departed this Life on the 28ᵗʰ Ultimo, by whose Death the Chaplain's Places are Vacant. We must therefore desire your Honours will fill up those Vacancies by the first opportunity.

38. There being a Great Scarcity of Covenanted Servants in Calcutta, we have entertained Mʳ Hewitt as a monthly writer with the same Allowances as your own Servants, & beg Leave to recommend him to be covenanted upon this Establishment, he is appointed in the Secretary's Office.

39. The large sums of money laying in our Treasury being greatly more than we shall want for our Investments & Charges, we have advertised that no Interest will be paid on Company's Bonds after the first day of October next, & that all Bonds tendered for Payment will be immediately discharged. By this method we hope to free your Honours of the heavy Debt owing by the Company at this Presidency.

40. The same motive made us take into Consideration whether we should grant Bills of Exchange on your Honours by the Vessell and the *Marlbro'* for all sums paid for that purpose. It was the opinion of the Board (in which the Gentlemen at Muxadavad concur) that no Bills by the foregoing Vessels should be granted, but for the produce of Coral, Amber Beads, &ᶜᵃ, Monies paid in Account the Estates of Deceased Persons, & small sums remitted home for Necessaries. We were induced to this Resolution from a Consideration of the small investments sent home last Year, & the large sums that would be remitted on the Company if not restrained. But we apprehend we shall be under great Difficulty to avoid giving Bills of large Sums of Money by the December Shipping. If we should be necessitated to grant such Bills we purpose to make them payable on the following Terms. That the Bills though drawn as usual at Ninety Days after Sight, shall not be payable before one Twelve Month from the Acceptance of the Bill, the Proprietors of the Bills to be allow'd the Interest paid by the Company in England for the Time they are kept out of their Money after the ninety Days are expired.

41. Mʳ George Williamson & others who had money in the Company's hands at Interest & have lost their Bonds having applied to us either to renew

their Interest Notes or grant them Certificates signifying they were not discharg'd at the Capture, We took their Case into Consideration & esteeming it a great hardship upon those who have lost their Bonds by the Capture of the Settlement, We have agreed to grant Certificates to such Persons whose Bonds to the best of our Knowledge were not discharg'd between of the Ships of last Season for Europe & the Loss of this Place, Referring it to your Honours to right the Sufferers by ordering the said Bonds to be rece'd or paid as you will be able to trace out by the Books & Treasury Accounts sent home, whether these Bonds have been discharged or not.

42. The Journals of this Presidency balanced & closed to the 30th of April 1755 having found among the Ruins of the Factory, we have ordered the head standing on Balance at that Time to be brought forward on the Books now opened, that they may be adjusted & settled in future as we got a further Knowledge of the Company's Credit.

43. We are now to advise your Honors of the Several sums for which we have granted Bills of Exchange ꝑ this Vessel a 2s 3p ca Current Rupees, the amount being first accounted for in our Treasury. One Sett for Rupees Four thousand seven hundred fifty-two (4,752-0-0) Current, rece'd of Mr Wm Nixon on acco t the Estate of H. Goddard, payable to Mr John Goddard & Commelin Pigou is Lstr 534-12-0.

One Sett for Rupees One thousand five hundred fifty-six twelve annaes Three Pice (1,556-12-3) Current, rece'd of Chas Manningham & Wm Frankland Esqres, payable to Adam Dawson Esqr is Lstr. 175-2-8.

One Sett for Rupees three hundred twenty twelve annaes three Pice (320-12-3) Current, rece'd of Chas Manningham & Wm Frankland Esqres, payable to Captain John Sampson is Lstr 36-1-8.

One Sett for Rupees three hundred twenty twelve annaes three Pice (320-12-3) Current, rece'd of Chas Manningham & Wm Frankland Esqres payable to Thomas Saunders Esqr is Lstr 36-1-8.

One Sett for Rupees one thousand four hundred ninety-five one annae three Pice (1,495-1-3) Current, rece'd of Charles Manningham & Wm Frankland Esqres on account of Miss Eliza Fytche, paya to Thomas Fytche Esqr is Lstr 168-3-11.

One Sett for Rupees One thousand & eight eleven annaes and Six Pice (1,008-11-6) Current, rece'd of Mr Thomas Rait, payable to Captain Thomas Winter is Lstr 113-9-7.

One Sett for Rupees three thousand eighty-four, six annaes nine pice (3,084-6-9) Current, rece'd of Mr Hugh Baillie, payable to Mr Wm Smith Kinge is Lstr 347-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees four thousand four hundred forty-four & seven annaes (4,444-7-0) Current, rece'd of Mrs Francis Watts, paya to Mr Wm Watts is Lstr 500-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees twenty-nine Thousand ninety-seven and eleven annaes (29,097-11-0) Current, rece'd of Rodger Drake Junr Esqr being the Produce of 2 Chests of Coral marked R. B. Nos 9 & 10 imported ꝑ Norfolk, payable to Messrs Richd & Wm Barwell is Lstr 3,273-9-9.

One Sett for Rupees eight hundred eighty-eight fourteen Annas six Pice (888-14-6) Current, rece'd of Mrs Sarah Mapletoft, payable to Humphry Bellamy Esqr is Lstr 100-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees eight thousand eight hundred eighty-eight fourteen annaes three Pice (8,888-14-3) Current, rece'd of Charles Manningham Esqr, payable to Thos & Henry Manningham Esqr is Lstr 1,000-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees one thousand sixty ten annaes nine Pice (1,060-10-9) Current, rece'd of Richard Becher Esqr Accot the Etate of John Hall Dece'd, payable to Messrs Nettleton & Raikes is Lstr 120-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees eight hundred ninety-three two annaes Six Pice (893-2-6) Current, Rece'd of Mr Cullg Smith, payable to Stephen Law Esqr is Lstr 100-9-7.

One Sett for Rupees Six hundred twenty-eight twelve annaes nine Pice (628-12-9) Current, Rece'd of Mr Culling Smith, paya to Messrs Moore & White Lstr 70-14-9.

One Sett for Rupees four thousand four hundred forty-four, four annaes three Pice (4,444-4-3) Curt, Received of Messrs Amyatt & Fullerton being the Produce of one Chest of Coral marked H. B. No. 1 Imported ℘ *Delawar*, payable to Wm Barwell Esqr Lstr 1,497-8-2.

One Sett for Rupees two thousand two hundred forty-eight fourteen annae three Pice (2,248-14-3) Current, Rece'd of Mr Wm Powney, paya to Mr Joseph Fowke Lstr 253-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees three thousand five hundred fifty-five Eight annaes nine Pice (3,555-8-9) Current, Rece'd of Wm Percival Esqr, payable to Mr James Adams & the Revd Mr Geo. Perceval is Lstr 400-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees Seven hundred Eleven One annae nine Pice (711-1-9) Current, Rece'd of Mr Wm Prightwell Sumner, payable to Mr Frasr Howell is Lstr 80.

One Sett for Rupees One thousand nine hundred fifty-five & nine annaes (1,955-9-0) Current, Received of Mr Samuel Waller, payable to William Waller Esqr or order Lstr 220-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees twenty six Thousand six hundred sixty-six ten annaes six Pice (26,666-10-6) Current, received of Wm Frankland Esqr, payable to Frederick & Thomas Frankland Esqres is Lstr 3,000-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees Seventeen Thousand seven hundred seventy-seven twelve Annaes six Pice (17,777-12-6) Current, Received of Messieurs Maningham, Frankland and Thomas Holmes, payable to Frederick Frankland, Esqrs and Sr Wm Russel is Lstr 20,000-0-0.

One sett for Rupees thirteen Thousand three hundred thirty-three five Anneas three Pice (13,333-5-3) Current, Received of Roger Drake Junr, Esqr, payable to Roger Drake Esqr, is Lstr 1,500-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees Eight hundred eighty-eight fourteen Annaes three Pice (888-14-3) Current, Received of Mr Chs Douglas, payable to Alexander Wedderburn Esqr, Lstr 100-0-0.

44. The whole Amount of Bills of Exchange ℘ this Vessel is Current Rupees 1,43,339-9-3 or Lsterling 16,125-13*s*-9*d*.

45. It is with the greatest Concern We inform Your Honours of the Death of Admiral Charles Watson who departed this Life of a violent fever on the 16th Instant.

We are with the greatest Respect,
May it please your Honours,
Your faithful & Obdt Servants,

FORT WILLIAM,
August 20th 1757.

ROGER DRAKE, JUNr.
RICHD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
W. MACKETT.
P. AMYATT.
THOs BODDAM.

To—The Hon'ble the Secret Committee for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

HONORABLE SIRS,—

1. Enclosed we transmit you a Copy of our Letter under Date the 14th July which has been forwarded in Triplicates *viâ* Bombay and two Copies will be forwarded *via* Fort St George. The importance of it induced us to despatch this Vessel (the *Diligent* Schooner) with another Copy, wherefore we flatter our selves some one or other of these Packets will not fail of reaching England.

2. Since the Close of that Letter, Nothing very material has occurred. The Country enjoys at present a profound Tranquillity and the new Subah seems firmly established in his Government being a humane prince and much

esteemed by his Subjects. Some Disturbances are however expected as soon as the Rains are over, Mr Law and his party having escaped to the Nabob of Oude who has threaten'd to invade these Dominions and revenge Seraja Dowla's Ruin. Should he attempt to molest the present Subah, it will be necessary for our Troops once more to take the Field as we are bound both by our Treaty and our own Interest to support him in the Government. These Reasons have determined us to detain the Detachments sent us from Bombay and Fort St George till peace and quiet is sufficiently settled in these provinces.

3. In the Packett to the Honourable The Court of Directors Captain Brohier's Indent for Military Stores is transmitted, We request the Favour that Indent may be compared with as near as possible and that positive Orders may be sent to the President and Council of Fort St George to detain no part of those Stores, as the Consequences of their doing it may be fatal to the Company's Affairs should the French attempt to dispossess us of this settlement.

4. Part of the money due Account the Moiety to be immediately paid is arrived in Calcutta, and the Remainder we are informed is weighing off.

5. In the Packett To the Honorable The Court of Directors Translate of the General Sunnud and the Perwannah for the Mint are forwarded. You will observe by the last the impression is to be Calcutta only, without the Addition of Allenagore.

We are with the greatest Respect,

Hon'ble Sirs,

Your most faithful Humble Servants,

ROGER DRAKE, JUNR.

ROBERT CLIVE.

RICHD BECHER.

Fort William,
20th August 1757.

To—The Hon'ble Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

Honorable,—

I had the Pleasure to Address you last from Charnagore but the Packet by the Delatoriness of the Boatmen did not arrive in Time to be received on board the Vessel under Dispatch for England, I therefore take the first opportunity of sending it to your Honors by this Conveyance.

These who build most upon Military Successes could never have conceived the present Expedition would have ended so gloriously for the Company, give me Leave to congratulate your Honours on this fortunate Event, an Event which puts it in your Power to be as great as you Please in the kingdom of Bengal. The Sineyws of War are in your own Possession, and there wants nothing but Supplies of Men and Military Stores to keep up your Influence and preserve all your Priviledges and Acquesitions.

Your Committee will inform your Honours of the Necessity of the late Revolution & in what Manner it was conducted. I enclose your Honors a General Return of the Forces under my Command, a Journal of our Military Proceedings & Translate of the Treaty with Meer Jaffeir, &ca.

Your Affairs are upon the Coast much in the same Situation as when I left it, both Parties are too equal to act offensively, & no Acquisition has been made on either Side. The French have made an unsuccessfull attempt upon Tritchenopoly, and we upon Madera and Nellour.

Your Settlements to the Northward of Madrass were not in a Condition to withstand the Superior Force of your Enemies in those Parts, but the Men were imprudently lost who might have been withdrawn in Time.

Your Honors may be persuaded that next to this Province the Carnatick takes up my whole Attention, it gives me much Concern the Gentlemen upon e Coast should be displeased at my not returning a Part of the Forces, had I done so nothing could have been effected here. Your Honours who bestow an impartial Attention upon all the Company's Settlements will I hope approve of my Conduct.

The Time draws near when we may expect to hear of the new Subah Jaffeir Ally Cawn's Confirmation from Dalhy & that the Marottoes are satisfied with the late Change. I shall then proceed to the Carnatick with a Force which I hope will give our Arms the Superiority in those Parts, I make no Doubt of being there soon after the breaking up of the Monsoon, which will be as early as the two contending Parties can take the Field, and upon my arrival there I shall with Pleasure resign the Sword to my Superiors.

May the like Success attend Your Arms in every part of India, and may I soon have an Opportunity of convincing your Honors in Person with how much Zeal, Attachment and Respect I am,

HONORABLE,

Your most obliged hum. Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

CALCUTTA,
22nd August 1757.

To—The Hon'ble Secret Committee for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

HON'BLE SIRS,—

1. Since I had the honor to address you last from Muxadavad, your Service required my coming to this Place to settle some Military Affairs, I propose returning in a very few Days in Order to hasten the Conclusion of the Articles of Agreement with the Nabob now nearly accomplished.

2. To save unnecessary Expences I have ordered all Batta or extraordinary Allowances to be struck off, and the Military &c. return to Garrison, the unhealthiness of Calcutta at this Season of the Year has induced me to leave most of your Force above; the Lives of Men are very precious at this Critical Juncture, and I am persuaded your Affairs will receive Benefit from this Step on many other Accounts.

3. The daily Intelligence I receive from Patna makes it absolutely necessary the Nabob's whole Force should march that Way after the Rains, indeed all his and your Acquisitions will be put to risque without it I have not the least doubt, but everything will be settled on the most solid and lasting Footing by the Month of December, I shall then be enabled to bestow my whole Attention upon your Affair's on the Coast of Chorromandel.

4. By the last Advices from hence the two Armies were nearly equal in Force, ours had made several Motions to draw the Enemy to an Engagement but to no manner of Purpose; the French persisted in keeping their Entrenchments at Vandivash, ours are encamped at Conjiveram Since the unsuccessfull Attempt of the French upon Tritchenopoly and their Return north, Captn Caillaud undertook a second Expedition against Madura, made a Breach and in attempting to storm it, was repulsed with the Loss of some men kill'd and wounded, the Committees last Letters, Copy of which I now enclose you, mentions this Affairs in General Terms only, but I have received the above-mentioned particular from other Hands.

5. Mr. Watson is no more, every one here received the Melancholly News of his Death with much Concern, his Generosity, Disinterestedness and Zeal for the Service must for ever|indear his Memory to the Company. Unhappy Fate! After having escaped all the Risques of War to be thus untimely cut off in the midst of his Successes, crown'd with Glory and Reputation. This is but one of the many Lessons given us of the Instabillity of humane Nature, Concern for this Good man's Death hastens me to a Conclusion, and I have only to assure you I am with the greatest Respect,

Honorable Sirs,
Your most obliged humble Servant,
ROBERT CLIVE.

CALCUTTA,
22nd August 1757.

To—The Honorable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,—

1. By the *Diligent* Schooner we gave you a Detailof your Affairs under our Management, we beg Leave to refer ourselves to a Duplicate of that Letter (enclosed) for the particulars.

2. The *Marlbro'* is now under Dispatch for Madrass with four thousand (4,000) Bags of Petre consigned to the President and Council of that Place, the other Goods laden we have consigned your Honours as ℘ Invoice and Bill of Lading enclosed, amounting to Rupees four hundred & eighteen Thousand five hundred (4,18,500).

3. A proportion of Stores for St. Helena is likewise laden on this Vessel amounting to Rupees nine hundred & sixty seven four ann^{s} nine pice, Invoice and Bill of Lading for which we have forwarded to the Governor & Council there.

4. In this Packet we transmit you the several papers belonging to the *Marlbro'* with Captain MacLeod's Letters, Report of the Madeira received by her, &c., we likewise send an Account Sale of the Copper, Lead & Woollen Goods put up the eighteenth of August, by which you will observe the two first Articles sold extreemely well. We shall make another Tryal of our Woollen Goods at the setting in of the Cold Weather.

5. As we think it will not be possible for the French to be re-settled in these Provinces till a peace is concluded betwixt the two Crowns, we have hopes of being able to dispose of a much larger Quantity of Woollen Goods than we have indented for these few Years past. By the December Shipping we shall be better enabled to form our Indents which we cannot send Home by this Ship.

6. As yet we have not heard of the Arrival of any of this Year's Shipping on the Coast.

7. Our President conformable to your Honour's Orders begs Leave to advise that probably he shall return to England in December 1758 as through his long residence in India and the late Calamities and Distress he has undergone he finds his Constitution impaired, nevertheless he assures your Honours he shall not quit your Service if his presence here for a longer Time is material to his Employer's Interest, & his health will permit him to remain while it is your pleasure to hold him on his Station.

8. The Seamen of the *Marlbro'* having been employed in the Camp near Dum Dumma and having behaved extremely well, we have thought it proper to give them a Bounty of fifty (50) Rupees a Man as an Encouragement for their good Behaviour. In this Place we beg Leave to mention that the Commander & officers in general of your Ships exerted their utmost in the Defence of the Settlement & assisting the Inhabitants when we were in Distress, we refer it therefore to Your Honors to make them such a Gratification as you think fit.

9. We have granted the following Bills of Exchange by this Ship to the underwritten persons at two Shillings and three pence (2^{s} — 3^{d}) each Current Rupees their respective amounts being first duely accounted for in the Treasury.

One Sett for Rupees six thousand seven hundred and eighty-five (6,785) Current, received of Roger Drake Jun^{r} Esq^{r}, payable to Roger Drake and Beeston Long Esq^{res} is Lst^{r} 763-6-3.

One Sett for Rupees twenty six Thousand (26,000) Current, received of Roger Drake Jun^{r} Esq^{r} acco^{t} a Legacy bequeathed Millecent Drake Daughter of Roger Drake Jun^{r} by John Coles deceas'd, payable to Roger Drake and Beeston Long Esq^{res} is Lst^{r} 2,925-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees twenty six thousand (26,000) Current, received of Roger Drake Junior Esq^{r} acco^{t} a Legacy bequeathed Martha Drake deceas'd by John Coles deceas'd now the property (in equal Shares) of Roger, Richard and Nathaniel Drake Sons of Roger Drake Jun^{r}, payable to Roger Drake and Beeston Long Esq^{res} is Lst^{r} 2,925-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees three thousand four hundred and forty (3,440) Current, received of Roger Drake Jun^{r} Esq^{r} Acco^{t} Millecent Drake Daughter of Roger Drake Junior, payable to Roger Drake and Beeston Long Esq$^{res.}$ is Lst^{r} 387-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees nine hundred and eighty (980) Curr^{t}, received of Roger Drake Junior Esq^{r} Acco^{t} his Son Richard Drake; payable to Roger Drake and Beeston Long Esq^{res} is Lst^{r} 110-5-0.

One Sett for Rupees thirteen thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven, one Annae, three Pice (13,887-1-3) Current, received of Messieurs Manningham and Frankland by Order of Sol. Franco of Madrass, pay^{ble} to Mess^{rs} Moses & Raphael Franco (being in full Returns for Coral M. F. R. No. 1 ℘ *Rhodda* 1755 I. $^{F.}$ M. No. 32 ℘ *Lynn* 1750) is Lst^{r} 1,562-5-11.

One Sett for rupees forty six thousand six hundred & twenty two-ten annaes (46,622-10), received of Mess^{rs} Manningham & Frankland by Order of Mr. Sol. Franco of Madrass, being in full returns for Coral F. F. No. 26 ℘ *Bombay Castle* 1752 and No. 17 ℘ *Triton* 1754 No. 1 ℘ *Griffin* 1749 No. 7 ℘ *Kent* 1750 & No. 32 ℘ *East Court* 1,755, pay^{ble} to Mess$^{rs.}$ Abraham and Jacob Franco is Lst^{r} 5,245-0-11.

One Sett for Rupees two thousand five hundred & sixty-four, fifteen annaes, nine pice (2,564-15-9) Current, received of Messieurs Manningham & Frankland, being in full Returns for one Chest of Coral No. 1 ℘ *Malbro'* 1756, payable to Mr. Joseph Salvadore is Lst^{r} 288-11-3.

One Sett for Rupees three thousand five hundred & ten, thirteen annaes, three Pice (3,510-13-3) Current, received of Mess^{rs} Manningham and Frankland, being in part Returns of one Chest of Coral ℘ *Walpole* 1756 marked No. 13 payable to Mr. Judah Supino is Lst^{r} 394-19-4.

One Sett for Rupees seven thousand five hundred & sixty-nine, five annaes, (7,569-5-0) Current, received of Messieurs Manningham and Frankland in part Returns of one Chest of Coral ℘ *Walpole* 1756 marked R. B. No. 18 payable to Mess^{rs} Richard and William Barwell is Lst^{r} 851-11.

One Sett for Rupees twenty eight Thousand five hundred & seventy-five Seven Annaes, three pice (28,575-7-3) Current, received of Mess^{rs} Manningham & Frankland in full Returns for two Chests of Coral ℘ *Walpole* 1756 marked $^{DM}_{B}$ No. 9 & 10, payable to Richard Barwell Esq^{re} is Lsterling 3,214-14-9.

One Sett for Rupees two hundred & sixty-six; ten Annaes, nine Pice (266-10-9) Current, received of M^{rs} Sarah Chapman, payable to M^{r} John Chapman is Lst^{r} 30-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees fifteen Thousand seven hundred & ninety-seven (15,797) Current, received of Roger Drake Jun^{r} Esq^{r} on Account William Barton Son of James Barton left in Trust with Roger Drake Jun^{r} and Daniel D. Lascelles payable to Daniel Lascelles Esq^{r} is Lst^{r} 1,777-3-3.

One Sett for Rupees four Thousand four hundred and forty-four, seven Annaes three Pice (4,444-7-3) Current, Received of M^{r} George Clive, payable to William Belchior Esq^{r} & Company is Lsterling 500-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees four Thousand four hundred and forty-four, seven Annaes, three Pice (4,444-7-3) Current, Received of William Watts Esq^{r}, payable to M^{r}. William Watts is Lst^{r} 500-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees seven Thousand (7,000) Current, Received of William Fullerton Acco^{t} the Estate of Walter Johson deceased, payable to M^{r} William Ferguson is Lst^{r} 787-10-0.

One Sett for Rupees three thousand (3,000) Current, Received of William Fullerton is Lst^{r} 337-10-0, payable to Mess^{rs} Goslin & Benet.

One Sett for Rupees four thousand four hundred & forty-four, seven Annaes, three Pice (4,444-7-3) Current, received of M^{r} James Williers Walsh, payable to M^{r} George Fitzgerald is Lst^{r} 500-0-0.

One Sett for Rupees four thousand four hundred & forty-four, seven Annaes, three Pice (4,444-7-3) Current, received of Peter Amyatt Esq^{r}, payable to William Barwell Esq^{r} & W^{m} Jny^{r} Burges is Lst^{r} 500-0-0.

The whole amount of Bills granted on this Vessel is Rupees two hundred & nine thousand seven hundred & seventy-six, twelve annaes, three Pice, (2,09,776-12-3) or Lstr 23,599-17-8.

10. By this Ship we transmit your Honors a State of Fort William, but we apprehend it is but an imperfect one we shall endeavour to send one more correct by the December Shipping & are with the greatest Respect,

May it please your Honours,
Your most faithful obdt. Hble Servants,

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*
RICHD BECHER.
W. FRANKLAND.
M. COLLET.
W. MACKETT.
P. AMYATT.
THOS BODDAM.

FORT WILLIAM,
12th September 1757.

To—The Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Compy. of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,—

1. Herewith we forward to the Gentlemen at Fort St George to be transmitted from thence to Europe by the first Conveyance a packet designed to have been sent your Honours by the *Marlbro'*, Captain Alexander McLeod, which Ship was actually laden with four Thousand (4,000) Bags of Petre and near Six hundred (600) Bales and her dispatches upon the point of being closed when the *Revenge*, Captn William James, brought us Intelligence of the Arrival of a Squadron of ten French Ships at Pondicherry, which was confirmed a few days after by His Majesty's Ship the *Triton*, as yet we have no Certain Accot of their Force or what Number of Troops they have brought.

2. As we judged it highly imprudent to send the *Marlbro'* to Fort St George after receiving such News, we have altered her Appointment and shall lade her for Europe compleatly from hence to be dispatch'd early in the Season.

3. About the middle of August we sent eight hundred (800) Bags of Petre to Fort St George on the *Mermaid*, one of our Pilot Sloops which has been obliged to put back by stress of Weather after having got into the Latitude of 15° North. The advices she carried being of the utmost importance we have freighted *Syrian* Sloop to carry them to the Coast, and have given the Owners a Gratuity of two thousand (2,000) Rupees for so doing. The *Marlbro'* Packet is likewise forwarded to the Coast on the *Watson* Sloop which we have taken up on that account for the same Sum.

4. By these Vessels we write to the Governor and Council of Fort St George to acquaint them of our having altered the *Marlbro's* Appointment, and to request they will let us know how far they can assist us in the Dispatch of any of the Ships expected this Season.

5. Upon receiving Intelligence of the Arrival of a French Squadron upon the Coast, we thought it absolutely necessary to send the Directore & Council, Officers, Military and Civil, and Inhabitants of the late Colony of Chandernagore to Pondicherry to prevent their assisting in any Shape their Countrymen in Case they proceed hither to make an attempt upon our Settlement. The *Restitution* is freighted for that purpose, we have allowed the Owner's Forty Thousand (40,000) Arcot Rupees for carrying them, and have indemnify'd them in the amount of forty five Thousand (45,000) Current Rupees should the ship be

taken by the French in her Passage to Pondicherry or detained by them after her Arrival there, these were the only Terms we could prevail on the Owners to send the Ship for, and as we think it of the utmost Consequence to keep the French out of Bengall, and judged this to be one Material Step to prevent their getting a Footing here, we hope what we have done will meet with with your Approbation.

We are with the greatest Respect,

May it please your Honours,

Your most faithful & most Obed^{t} H^{ble} Servants,

ROGER DRAKE, *Junior.*

FORT WILLIAM,

27th September 1757.

JAMES KILLPATRICK.

RICH^{D} BECHER.

M. COLLET.

P. AMYATT.

To—The Hon'ble the Secret Committee for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

(DUPLICATE.)

HONORABLE SIRS,—

Notwithstanding the Precautions which I acquainted you in my last of the 22nd August were taken for preserving the Military in Health by quartering the greatest part at Cossimbuzar and Chandernagore, I am sorry to inform you that a terrible mortality has reigned among them; and that many of the Survivors are so reduced by Illness as to be Still incapable of Duty. We have likewise lost several Officers and among the Rest Major Killpatrick, who acquired much deserved Reputation in his Long course of Service in India. The Squadron has suffered no less than the Land Forces, indeed the Sickness has been general not only with the English but the French and Dutch and even the Natives. The enclosed Return will give you the particulars of our Loss as well as acquaint you with the small Force I have at present in the Field. Of the Detachment of King's Troops not above Twenty Privates were fit for Duty, when we marched therefore at M^{r} Pocock's pressing Instance, I left the whole behind to be embarked on board the Squadron. Of the Madrass Detachment there remained about 150 Effective Train included, so that the Troops now with me are for the greatest Part composed of foreign Deserters and Topasses entertained on the Bengal Establishment. However the present Face of Affairs seems fortunately to require but little Service from our Arms, Political Negotiations are likely to be more necessary.

2. In laying open the State of this Government I am concerned to mention that the present Nabob is a Prince of little Capacity, and not at all bless'd with the Talent of gaining the Love and Confidence of his principal Officers. His mismanagement threw the Country into great Confusion in the Space of a few months, and might have proved of fatal Consequence to himself, but for our known attachment to him; no less than three Rebellions were on Foot at the same Time; one at Midnapore headed by Rajah Ram, another in Purhnea under Oudul Sing, and the third at Patna under Ramnarran, all which may be very well attributed to the Nabob's Own Imprudence. Rajah Ram's two Brothers after being invited to Muxadavad were imprison'd which was quite sufficient to deter him from surrendring himself as he intended; Meer Azisse was appointed to the Government of Purhnea to the general Satisfaction of the People, but soon laid aside for Coddum Hussan Cawn, a Relation it's True of the Nabob, but a tyrannical rapacious Fellow and odious to the last Degree to the Purhneans, as for Ramnarran, after he had made his Submission and the Nabob had sworn to continue him in his Government, apparent Measures were taken for his Overthrow.

3. The Prime Minister Roy Dulup Ram, who was one of the Chief Instruments of the Nabobs and had received in Return solemn Assurances of continuing his Duan was suspected to be engrossing the Power in his Hands, and rather to have encouraged the three Rebellions than endeavoured to suppress them. It is very certain that Roy Dulup had a powerfull party in the State, and more than probable that he took Measures to strengthen it, according to the Common Policy of all Duans. However this might be, the Nabob's Jealousy of him was carried to such a Height that Surajah Dolaw's Brother, a young Lad and almost an Ideot, was suddenly cut off on a Surmize of Roy Dulup's intending to make him Nabob, and having sent his own Brother to Chandernagore to engage me in the Design, which is altogether groundless. Roy Dulup no sooner knew of this sudden Execution and the Motive for it, than he began immediately to fear for his own Life and open Hostilities might possibly have ensued if we had not been a Check to each party. The Nabob who at this Time was encamped in the Neighbourhood of Muxadavad Accompanyed by a Detachment of our Troops, excuses himself from any Knowledge of the Transaction and lays the whole Blame on his son who was left in the Government of the City; but many Circumstances induce us to believe otherwise. Roy Dulup on a pretence of Sickness was still at Muxadavad having a large Body of his own Troops with him as is usual in these Governments, but it is not improbable the Chief Reason for his remaining behind was a View to his own safety. Affairs were in this situation when I arrived at Muxadavad. I would willingly have engaged Roy Dulup to accompany me to the Nabob that I might have effected a Reconciliation between them, but his Illness not admitting him to sett out immediately, I could only assure him of my Protection, and engage his promise to follow me as soon as possible.

4. The 3rd Instant our Army came up with the Nabob's at Fethappoor near Rajahmall, where we still continue encamp'd chiefly to wait the Minister's Arrival.

5. I should have acquainted you that some Days before I sett out from Chandernagore, Rajah Ram the Midnapore Rebel, came and delivered himself up to me on promise of the Nabob's Pardon and our Protection. This first unlinked the Chain of the three Rebellions, the Chiefs of which had held a Correspondence and were connected together. Rajah Ram's Submission may be deem'd a very fortunate Event in all Respects, for his good Sense, long Experience in the affairs of this Government, and the great Influence he has in the Country would have made him as dangerous an Enemy to the Nabob as he is now an useful Friend to us.

6. Upon our Approach and some of the Nabob's Troops having passed the River into the Purhnea Country, the Rebels of that Country quitted their Intrenchments and dispersed, but some of their Chiefs were overtaken and made Prisoners. So that two of the Rebellions are effectually quelled, and the third is in fair Way of being peaceably accommodated with Ramnarran.

7. If it is in my Power to bring about the thorough Reconciliation which I intend between the Nabob and Roy Dulup all domestick Troubles may be fully put an End to in this Country. As for any Apprehensions of a foreign Enemy, they are not very strong at present; The Vizier with the assistance of the Marottoes drove Najib Cawn, the Aughwan Buxie, out of Delhi, but the latter being reinforced by a large Body of Patans who are the Aughwans that have settled for some Time in Indostan, is against making Head in the Neighbourhood of Delhi, and will be joined by Soojah Dowla, the Nabob of Oud, So that all the Powers from whom any Danger might be expected, are too much engaged among themselves to bend their Thoughts this Way for the Present. The Nabob's Confirmation is not yet procured at Delhi; nor can I judge when it will. The Difficulty is in the price.

8. I have waited for Roy Dulup's Arrival with great Impatience as no Durbar business can be transacted without him, and we have some Points to settle of great Consequence to Your Interest. We have allready had too much occasion to observe the Difficulties attending every application for Money to the Durbar, and foresee they will encrease as the Nabob grows stronger and w

become less necessary. Therefore, I have determined not to leave this Ground till I procure sufficient Assignments on the Revenues of some Country near Calcutta for the annual Payment of the money still due by Treaty, together with proper Writings from the Zemindars of such Country for the regular Discharge of the same, which we may enforce if necessary. We have already obtained the Nabob's promise to comply as soon as his Minister arrives, but it was not without much private Opposition from Juggatseat, who following the same Method with regard to all Debts due to him from the Government has already Demands on most of the Zemindars, however, on being threatened with the Loss of our Friendship he immediately desisted. It is not impossible but we may find Roy Dulup likewise averse to our carrying this Point as he must become by it a good Deal less necessary to us than when our Applications were to be directed to him.; but as the Nabob has given his Promise and the matter now wholly rests with him, he cannot find any Way of evading a Compliance without a manifest Breach of Friendship which he would not venture on in his present Situation.

9. The Conagoes having finished the Survey of the granted Lands and ascertained to what Purgunnahs they belong, the Perwannah for them is at last drawn out and signed by the Nabob, but it must still pass through the Minister's Hands before it issues.

10. When I took leave of Roy Dulup at Muxadavad he promised me that the first half yearly Payment of the Nabob's Debt which by a former Agreement was to be made in November should be paid one half immediately in ready Money and the rest as the November Revenues came in, Mr. Crafton was left at Muxadavad to see this performed, but I find the usual Shifts and Delays have been used, nevertheless I hope to have it finished e'er long.

11. M^r Watts still accompanies me in this Campaign and I cannot omit the Opportunity of remarking of what great Service he is to your Affairs, by his thorough Knowledge of the Language and People of this Country.

12. For the News of the Coast I must refer you to the Gentlemen of Calcutta where undoubtedly they have better Information than I can have here.

13. The Merchants of Muxadavad have advices that Nazim Ally Cawn assisted by the Morattoes defeated and took Prisoner his Brother Salabat Jung before Mons^r Bussy could arrive to his Assistance, but I am doubtfull what Credit to give to this Intelligence.

14. Mons^r Law and his Party proceeded to Illiabad, the Capital of Oud and it's said have entered into the service of Soojah Dowla undertaking to improve and manage his Artillery. Mons^r Courtin who went off from Dacca with a few men having rambled far beyond the Nabob's Limits returned towards Purhnea in the late Troubles. I have used all means to have him taken, but fear he has got out of our Reach. Mons^r Sinfray, late Secretary of Chandernagore, was not so successfull with the Party that he had assembled, consisting chiefly of the French who escaped at Plassis. A Detachment I sent after them took them in the Beerboon Country in their Way to Purhnea to the Number of 23, among whom were 4 Company's Servants who had given their Parole at Chandernagore. This sufficiently shews both the Activity of the French in India, and the little Nicety they observe in the Means of obtaining their Ends.

15. Every Reflection on the State of Bengal and of India in general confirms the Necessity of sending out a large force. If a sufficient Number of men cannot be embarked, small arms at least for raising Seepoy should not be omitted. Ten Thousand Stand will hardly be sufficient for Bengal alone, at present we have not a spare Musquet and the Consumption with the best care is always considerable in India. A large Ship of Powder will be likewise necessary in Bengal, for I see very little Prospect of a Sufficiency being made here or indeed any that is good.

16. I conclude the Gentlemen of Calcutta will inform you what Success they have had in enlisting the Men of the King's Detachment as Colonel Adlercron's Permission for their entering is but just arrived: I am unable

to give you the Account myself but am persuaded if the Men had not been allarmed by the late Sickness not one would have refused your Service.

17. Roy Dulup is arrived within 4 miles of us, so that I may expect a Visit from him to-morrow. The Nabob is not yet determined whether to proceed on to Patna or not as the Troubles seem entirely over, it is not improbable but we may shortly receive our Conge for returning, when If I find your Affairs no longer require my stay in Bengal I shall proceed to the Coast flattering myself of having executed fully and to your Satisfaction. the extraordinary Commission I undertook.

I have the Honor to remain with entire Devotion and Respect,

HONORABLE SIRS,

Your most Obedient and most humble Servant,

ROBERT CLIVE.

CAMP at FETHAHPOOR,
NEAR RAJAHMALL,
23rd December 1757.

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